

WARREN
MAGAZINE



SPIRIT
#5

DEC. 1974

THE SPIRIT

3y
Will Eisner

59296-5
PDC

\$1.00

THE SPIRIT
BRAVES HOT
DESERT WASTES
IN SEARCH
OF A MISSING
TREASURE!

EIGHT
CLASSIC TALES
FEATURING
THE WORLD'S
GREATEST
CRIME FIGHTER!



THE SPIRIT
NOW DEPUTY



THE
RETURN



THE
HUNTED



ICE



THE SPIRIT

EIGHT BIG STORIES IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE

HAMID
JEBRU



THE
PREDICTION



DEATH, TAXES
& THE SPIRIT



THE DEADLY
COMIC BOOK





OUR COVER
THE SPIRIT stalks into an arid desert, pursuing a dead man's treasure . . . and hunting the villainous Hamid Jebru. Ken Kelly and Will Eisner team on our cover.

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THE SPIRIT

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THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS



Will Eisner and THE SPIRIT have been personal favorites of mine since I first saw them, which, sad to say, was not all that long ago. Because of the criminal neglect shown to comics in this country, by producers and distributors alike, I'd missed THE SPIRIT for close to thirty years!

However, the quality of the reproduction in Warren's SPIRIT magazine is excellent... much better in fact than that of the original newspaper publications.

As far as the stories themselves are concerned, each and every one of them is a gem. My only complaint, and it is a very minor one indeed, is that you should keep the comedy stories limited to one per issue. Having both "Merry Andrew" and "UFO" in the same magazine made THE SPIRIT #2 lag somewhat. Although "Fallen Sparrow" and "Pouder Pouf" did much to compensate.

DEAN SMITH
Bucks, England

"Don't stop now! Give us Plasticman and Flash Gordon!"

In his HISTORY OF COMICS, Jim Steranko wrote: "...The sexiest females ever to slink across a comic page were Eisner's women. Other artists have drawn them more voluptuously, but never with more character."

After seeing the first three issues of Warren's SPIRIT magazine, I can see that this was true.

But does anyone recall Torchy, the first and last cheesecake comic book, by Bill Ward and Gil Fox? It was published during World War II.

If you could only resurrect Torchy as a companion magazine to THE SPIRIT...!

K. KASSER
Vancouver, Canada

Will Eisner, how did you do it? You could have made THE SPIRIT a slouch-hatted, night-cloaked terror like The Shadow, or a true ghost like The Spectre. He could even have been a Sam Spade-type gumshoe or a gallant adventurer like The Saint. But instead, THE SPIRIT is a monument to the one thing so often lacking in the flamboyant field of comics... originality!

Variety, too, is one of the great factors in the success of the strip. Who else but Eisner would dare spoof Li'l Abner and Orson Welles? His parodies put Mad and Crack-ed to pure shame.

And who else but Eisner can deal with such relevant themes as juvenile delinquency, veterans and crooked politicians, with an insight that makes his stories as urgent today as when first published?

TERRY BIGHAM
Mattapoisett, Mass.

I want to say that I think THE SPIRIT is great. Perhaps the greatest comic strip character ever. I want to thank Warren for bringing the art of the great Will Eisner to my attention.

JOHN MAYNARD
Orlando, Fla.

By reprinting the adventures of Will Eisner's SPIRIT, Warren has revived the greatest hero of all time. Even if it is 30 years since the creation of the masked marauder, it is good to see he holds as important a place as ever in the 1970s.

Please don't cancel him now!

RAFFAELE QUIRINO
Montreal, Canada

THE SPIRIT is simply the greatest publication of literature, art and crimefighting that has ever come to be. And the fourth issue of the magazine was simply super.

The cover, as always, was great. My favorite story was "The Spirit of '76."

I would like to see more of Ellen and Ebony.

MARK LAWLER
San Francisco, Calif.

The latest issue of THE SPIRIT (#4) was another in what I hope is a long line of major masterpieces.

I must disagree with William Williams of New York and stand behind your answer to his letter. Ebony is a character of fun rather than spite. His presence is not a mockery to Black Americans, but a chance to enjoy a character of immense possibility.

Please keep turning out this amazing book and I will forever enjoy every line of both lyric and art to the fullest extent.

CHAD GOYETTE
Long Beach, Calif.

Okay, Warren has made a major breakthrough with THE SPIRIT. But don't rest on your laurels now. There are still other classic strips deserving of revival in their own Warren magazines. How about giving us Plastic Man, The Phantom, Flash Gordon or Little Nemo.

And since you're now publishing a quarterly reprint magazine, COMIX INTERNATIONAL, how about giving us some of the lesser known strips, there? A full magazine of the Blackhawks, The Shadow, Five For Infinity, Hunter, Mandrake and Dick Tracy is a project comic fans have waited for for a long time. How about it?

MARTIN ARBUNICH
San Francisco, Calif.

I was undecided in my reaction to THE SPIRIT until issue number three! "Lonesome Cool" and "Surgery" were both fantastic. And there was not one story in the issue that even sunk to the level of "fair." They were all great. Keep up the fine work.

JIM BUFAN
Cicero, Ill.

THE SPIRIT #3 had one hell of a cover! I also liked the title logo which appeared in place of the one on your first issue. Unfortunately, the contents of THE SPIRIT #3 were not as exciting as in the previous issues. There was a lot of shooting and killing. But the stories still seemed boring.

Will Eisner's interview with THE SPIRIT almost put me to sleep.

STEVE THOMPSON
Urbana, Ohio

THE SPIRIT continues to move along in beautiful fashion, and each issue just seems to get better.

The covers, too, seem to grow more colorful each issue. And I like those Will Eisner interviews on your feature pages. I am looking forward to the ones with Ellen Dolan and Ebony.

I noticed that your next issue is scheduled for release on September 10. Since issue #4 came out in early August does this mean that THE SPIRIT is going monthly?

JOHN ROSE
La Crosse, Kan.

Not just yet, John! But we did want to give you as many issues as we could during the summer months.

Why?! Why can't you have all of THE SPIRIT's adventures in color? Color enhances the stories, and adds dimension, warmth, and life. Would it be that difficult to either print all color or revert to a regular comic book format? It would be worth it, and would be appreciated by your readers.

MIKE COAN
Eugene, Oregon

The economics of printing, Mike, is such that to publish THE SPIRIT in a full-color magazine format would raise the cover price to a level which would be prohibitive to many readers. And to convert it to regular comic book format, would be to sacrifice the quality of color we are able to achieve in our present form. We think our present format displays the adventures of THE SPIRIT to their best advantage. We hope our readers agree.



THE SPIRIT's adventure under Central City, in "Life Below," was the highlight of issue #4 for many readers.

"The character Ebony is a farce!"

I had never even heard of THE SPIRIT until just a couple of months before the first Warren issue. I discovered him in a comic book tome, and immediately began to mourn for those days gone by. My surprise, respect and admiration for the stories and art in THE SPIRIT cannot be expressed! I am just grateful that I was raised by parents who enjoyed such comics as these when they were kids. They were able to convey to me the ability to appreciate the truly great ones.

MARGARET GALLIANO
Houston, Texas

Finding my letter printed in THE SPIRIT #4 places no change in my opinion that profit, and not good taste is your motive in continuing the character Ebony.

Your comment that Ebony is "popular with fans of all races is undoubtedly your private opinion. And your examples of Desi Arnaz and Archie Bunker as latter day examples of Ebony is a farce.

Characters are the products of their authors in any media; yesterday, today or tomorrow. Will Eisner created Ebony through his ignorance. And I feel your cop out answer of ethnics being comic relief in the movies of the past just constitutes your publishing philosophy of "Print it, they'll buy anything!" That's true, of course! The public is more than ever impressed with the Eisner mystique.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS
New York, N.Y.

Once again, Mr. Williams, we thank you for taking the time and the interest to make your views known. However, again, we must disagree with you.

We take particular exception to the statement that Will Eisner created Ebony out of ignorance. If you re-read carefully any of the stories in THE SPIRIT #4, one fact must inevitably strike you: Eisner knows, understands, and cares about people. Through his individual characters, Eisner provides more generalized insights into the human condition, from the greatest of kings, to the lowliest mortal. And no writer can do this unless he has a genuine love for his subjects.

The fact that Eisner's characters are as real and identifiable today as when they were first written proves that people saw something in his characters that they felt was worth remembering.

Such a man can not be called ignorant of the problems and concerns of people.

I've just recently been exposed to THE SPIRIT and now I'm hooked. Stories like "Surgery," "The Embezzler" and "Lonesome Cool" left me sitting there staring in mute disbelief! Will Eisner captures the magic in all his stories and artwork, which other writers and artists strive for years to achieve. Kudos to Mr. Eisner for a job well done.

STEVEN HORNBECK
Lake Katrine, N.Y.

I've only been a SPIRIT fan for three years, but your reprints of Will Eisner's work show once again that he was a master of art technique. Too bad Rich Corben wasn't around in the 40s to color Eisner's work!

L. DIETRICH ADONIS
St. Croix

 Rich Corben will be very surprised to find out he wasn't around in the 40s. He could've sworn he was born in 1941. Oh, well.

I've only one thing to say to William Williams of New York: I like Ebony! He does not, now, nor has he ever offended me.

I'm just as proud of my black skin as you are, Mr. Williams. But I don't see how a comic book character is going to make me or my race look like monkeys. I accept and agree with the answer to your letter in THE SPIRIT #4. I hope you, as well as other blacks do, also.

JIM BROWN
Los Angeles, Calif.

Warren has once again put Will Eisner and the world's greatest comic character back into the foreground where they belong. After reading your first four issues, I have a few comments to make on each.

The cover of THE SPIRIT #1 could have been better. But the interior contents made up for it. The color story, and the coloring itself, were fantastic. I would like to see more of The Octopus.

"The Criminal," however, bothered me. Commissioner Dolan was usually depicted as a warm-hearted person and it seemed inconsistent that he would treat a lawbreaker as he did.

In issue #3, John Poscik had an interesting idea. And since I am a fan of Flash Gordon as well, I would be happy to see a magazine with Alex Raymond artwork. So how about a full-sized Flash Gordon book?

M. McCORMACK
Springfield, Mo.



THE SPIRIT's sidekick, Ebony, is causing controversy among black readers. William Williams of New York claims that Ebony is a parody of a black man. Los Angeles reader Jim Brown's views are quite different.

The first four issues of THE SPIRIT have been great! But by all means, make the magazine monthly. You have enough reprints to last for years! And let's see more color!

CHARLES EGBERT
Hauppauge, N.Y.

THE SPIRIT can truly be called a magnificent magazine. But one thing still bothers me. It is all reprint.

I would like to see some new stories set in the same time period as the originals. And perhaps you could have a SPIRIT Fan Club like the other Warren characters.

In closing, I would like to wish THE SPIRIT a very long lifetime.

PETER MARES
Hasbrouck Hts., N.J.

I am halfway through THE SPIRIT #4 and it is excellent as usual. But I would like to register my objection to your editorial policy of skipping around in THE SPIRIT chronology. By publishing installments out of sequence, you eliminate a lot of material that deserves to be seen again.

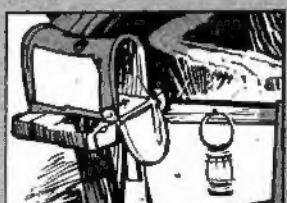
One example that comes to mind is the January 25, 1948 episode in which THE SPIRIT pursues The Octopus to South America, and first encounters Castanet and Mr. Carrion. This set the stage for "El Spirito," the color story from issue #1. Since Castanet has already been reported dead in that one, it is unlikely that you could now go back and run the episode which preceded it. Hence it is lost forever.

H.L. DAVIS
Pitman, N.J.

IT GETS AWFULLY LONELY AND SPOOKY IN WILDWOOD CEMETERY!

Even to a big, tough brute like THE SPIRIT, Wildwood Cemetery can seem like a spooky place at night. Help a lonely SPIRIT. Write to:

THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS
c/o Warren Publishing Co.
145 East 32nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10016



EBONY INTERVIEWS P'GELL

Ebony: P'Gell, how about telling the readers a little about yore life story?

P'Gell: Why?

Ebony: Because yore one of the most notorious of THE SPIRIT's lady villains.

P'Gell: Well, I was a war waif and at the tender age of 14 I became a Nazi general's mistress. The old boy liked his olives green and I liked my diamonds big. It worked out fine. I was older than my years and he was over-aged in grade. We were in Istanbul and there was a good market for Nazi generals... so I traded him in for a better deal. From there it was easy to move up. Today I'm quite wealthy.

Ebony: How'd ja make yore money?

P'Gell: Selling happiness at inflationary prices.

Ebony: How do you feel about male chauvinism?

P'Gell: Great! It's the best thing ever invented for ambitious women. Personally, I'd have starved to death if it weren't for that!

Ebony: How about women's lib?

P'Gell: It's dirty, subversive, left-wing ideology. If the women of the world aren't careful, this could erode their domination over men. Only weaklings need women's lib.

Ebony: How do you feel about THE SPIRIT?

P'Gell: I don't think you're old enough to discuss it yet, kid!

Ebony: I mean as a crime fighter.

P'Gell: Who cares!

Ebony: OK... how about as a man.

P'Gell: Very sexy. Appeals to the little girl in all women. He's a knight errant, who will save the girl from the dragon... and at the same time is vulnerable enough so that she can "mother" him after the fight. It's a combination as irresistible to women as alcohol-and-perfume is to men. His fear of commitment to a woman is at once charmingly elusive and very revealing. I think he had a domineering mother, and is really very scared of girls. I could really do big things for that boy if he'd let me...

Ebony: But you are always fighting him?

P'Gell: He bugs me! Treats me as if I were a naughty little girl. He flaunts his male superiority at me and uses his muscle. In the crime game muscle counts a lot. Still, there'll be many more adventures with him, and one of these days...

Ebony: How do you feel about Ellen Dolan, Miss P'Gell?

P'Gell: Hmpf! She's the all-American blah! That girl is everything men don't want. She's the kind of girl that becomes your mother. She represents all which I hold repugnant in American womanhood.

Ebony: What d'ya mean, repugnant?

P'Gell: She comes on soft and feminine. You know... "soft and pink." But oh brother, is she possessive!

Ebony: You sound mad at her...?

P'Gell: Mad at her? Why, that baby is my biggest threat! She appeals to THE SPIRIT's masculinity, and once he's on that trip, nothing will stop him. ELLEN DOLAN IS A PAIN!

Ebony: But she's so nice and helpless.

P'Gell: THAT'S THE BIT! She is working his male chauvinist hang-up to a fare-thee-well.

Ebony: Don't yo' think that if yo' went straight, you could...?

P'Gell: Straight? WHY? I'm doing okay now!

Ebony: But you're living this life of sin! You must be unhappy!

P'Gell: Lissen kid, who authorized you to interview ME?

Ebony: Mr. Eisner.

P'Gell: Why are they always doing this to me?

Ebony: Doing what?

P'Gell: Sending a boy to do a man's work.

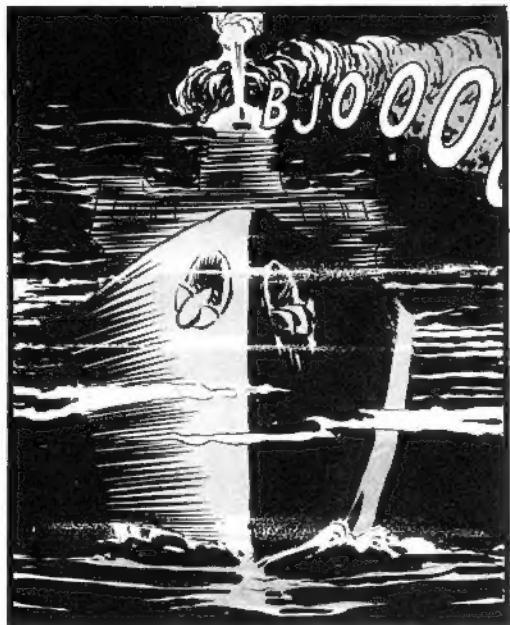
Ebony: Ah resent that!

P'Gell: Come back and see me when you're a little older, kid!



THE RETURN





MEANWHILE... IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...

OH#***!! YOU RATS!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY
WITH KIDNAPPING US!
THE SPIRIT WILL
GET YOU FOR THIS!

AS SOON AS YOU
RESIGN, I'LL HAVE
A CLEAR TRACK...
THIS IS A 'SPLIT'
LIPTON TOWN...
YOU'D BETTER
GET USED TO IT!

HELLO...
YEH... UH-HUH...
RIGHT!

YOU FORGET THINGS
HAVE CHANGED IN
CENTRAL CITY... THE
SPIRIT IS FINISHED IN
THIS TOWN! REMEMBER,
MAYOR BOWSER HAS
RESIGNED! NOW MY
FORCES OWN
CITY HALL!

RING
RING

YOU C'N FORGET ABOUT THE
SPIRIT! MY BOYS JUST BLEW HIM
T'BITS ON PIER NINE, NOW,
COMMISSIONER DOLAN, I'M GONNA
PUT YOU, EBONY, AND Y'R DAUGHTER
AWAY ON ICE... UNTIL I HAVE
FURTHER USE FOR YA...

BACK ON THE
WATERFRONT...

SPIRIT! WAKE UP...
Y'GOTTA WAKE
UP!!

SAMMY...
HAIL A CAB...
GOT TO GET
TO
WILDWOOD
CEMETERY...

C-CEMETERY
??

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

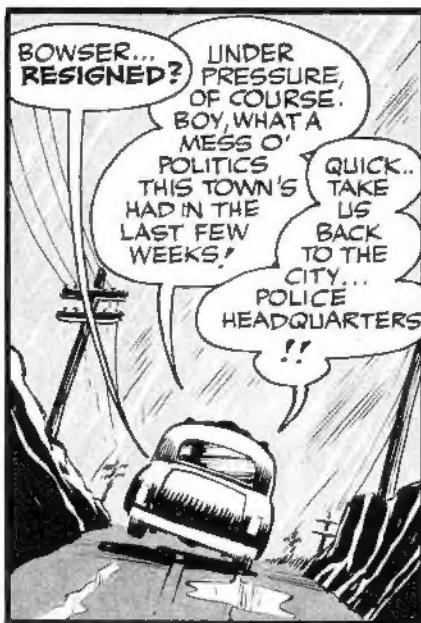
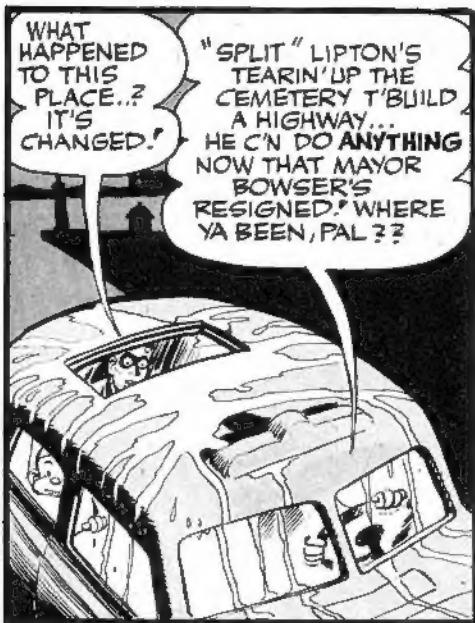
WILDWOOD
CEMETERY ??
WHAT FOR?
YOU AIN'T
GONNA DIE..
IT'S ONEY
A FLESH-
WOUND... HONEST!

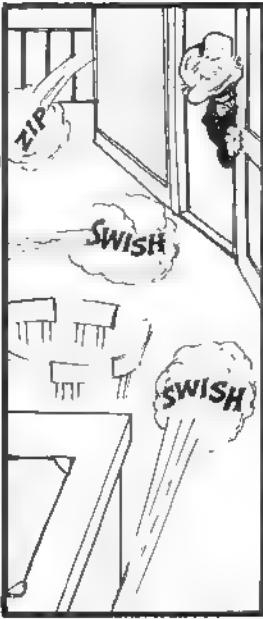
IT'S...
COUGH...
MY
SECRET
HIDEAWAY,
SAMMY...
WE'LL BE
SAFE
THERE,
AND...

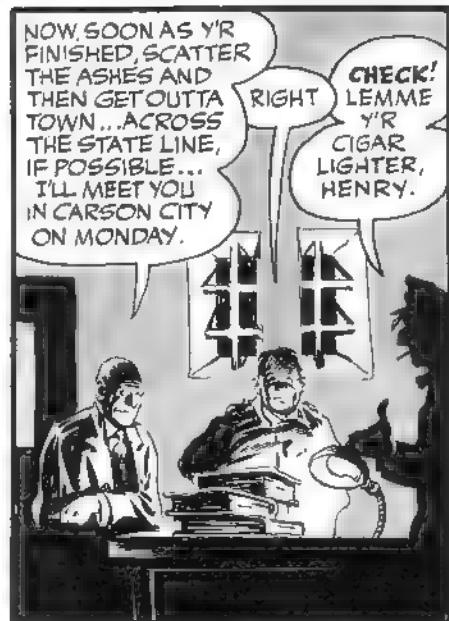
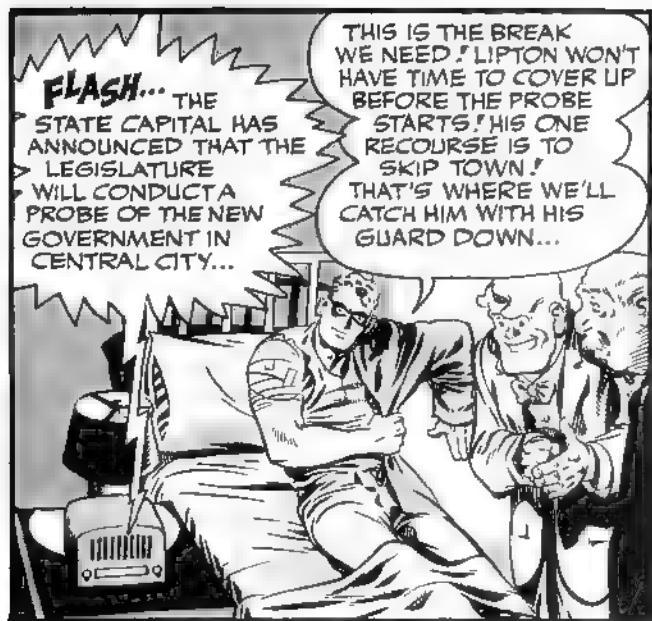
HERE Y'ARE, MISTER...
METER READS
\$2.50 ...

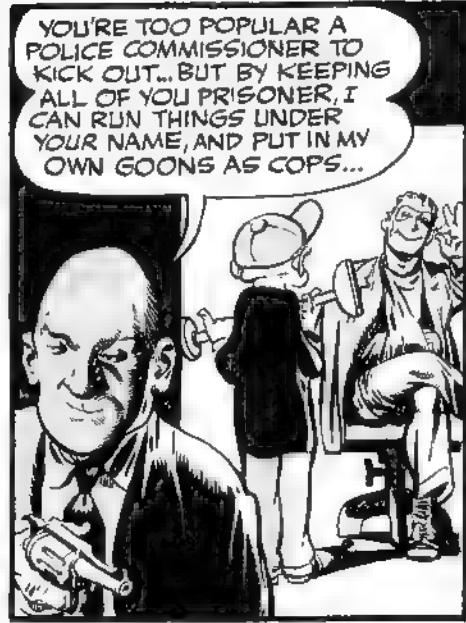
HEY?

WILDWOOD
CEMETERY
CLOSED
FOR HIGHWAY
CONSTRUCTION









THE SPIRIT NOW DEPUTY

FAMOUS CRIMEFIGHTER
ASSIGNED TO COMMISSIONER
DOLAN'S OFFICE

OUTSTANDING LAW-
ENFORCEMENT RECORD
HELD BY SPIRIT

By Will Eisner

The famous masked crimefighter, the Spirit, is today an official member of Central City's Police Department.

This makes official what has been a fact for some years now. Technically, the Spirit was an outlaw; but he had been actively cooperating with law enforcement authorities as a

(cont. on page 12)

The name, "The Spirit", has been a byword for justice. Since



Commissioner Dolan shows famous crimefighter new tour of duty.

appearing in June, 1940, spirit (the only name under which the masked man is known) has been responsible for the apprehension of some of the world's most dangerous criminals. Several authorities believe him to be the best criminologist Denny Colt,



The Spirit and Ellen Dolan, daughter of the commissioner, leave restaurant... Will the Spirit marry the boss' daughter?



MORNING AT WILDWOOD CEMETERY...
BELOW GROUND IN THE SPIRIT'S
SECRET HIDEAWAY...

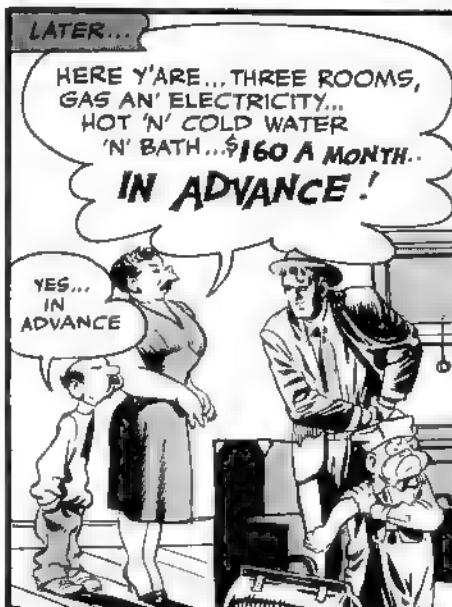
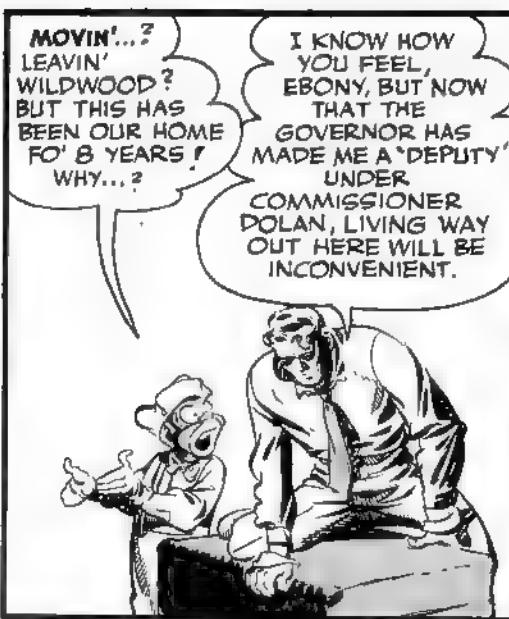
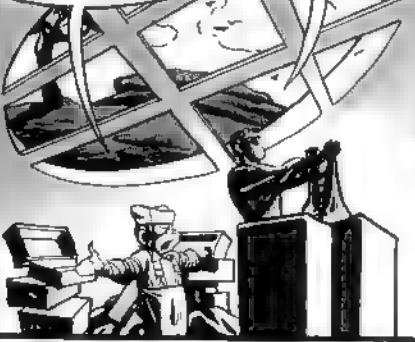
MIST' SPIRIT...
WHAT'S ALL THIS
PACKIN' FO'?
WHERE ARE
WE GOIN'?

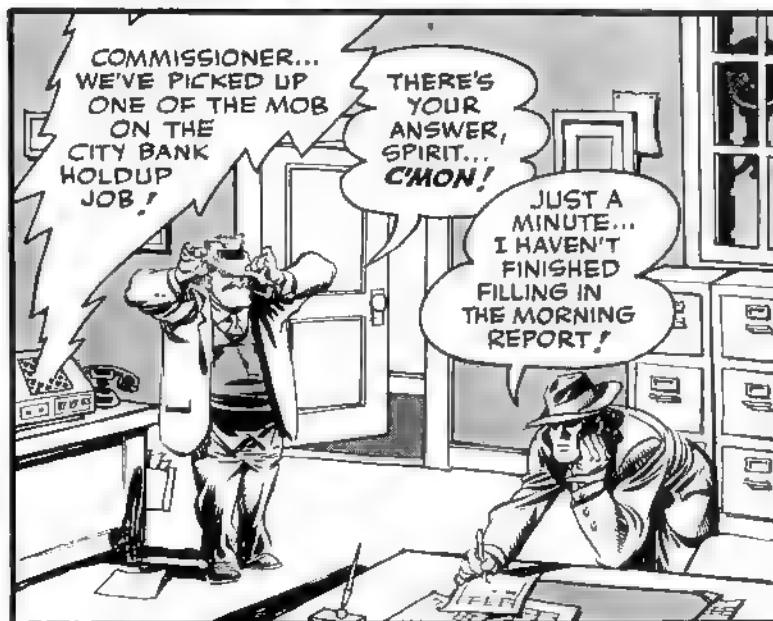
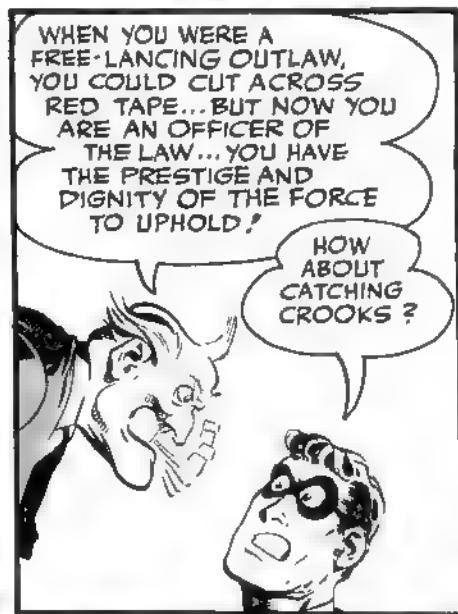
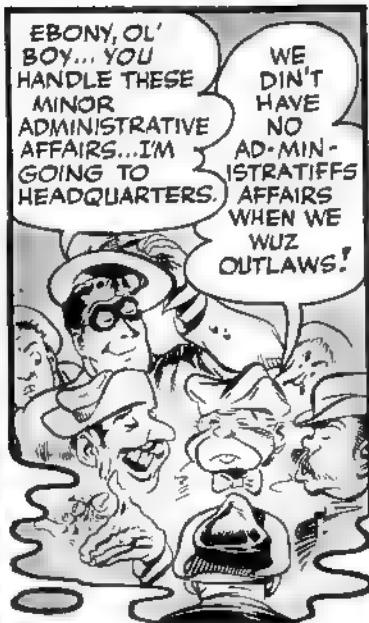
WE'RE
MOVING,
EBONY.

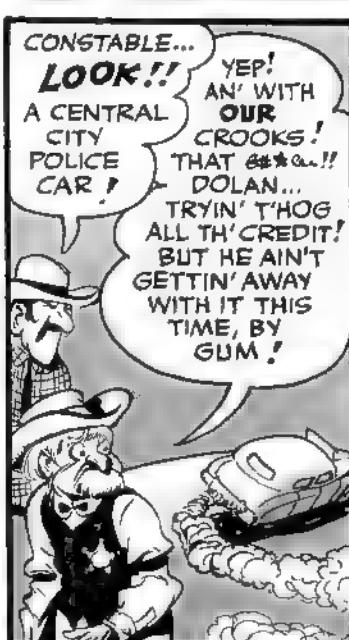
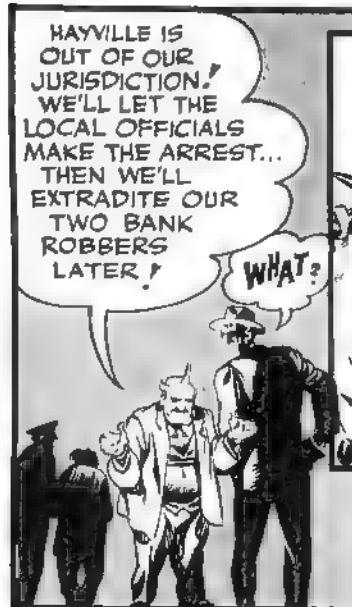
MOVIN'...?
LEAVIN'
WILDWOOD?
BUT THIS HAS
BEEN OUR HOME
FO' 8 YEARS!
WHY...?

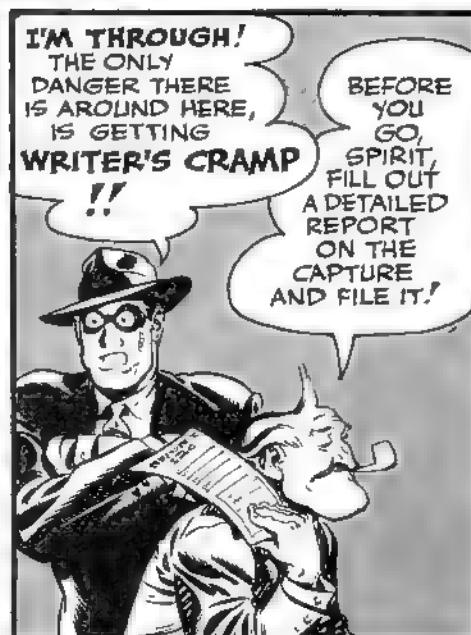
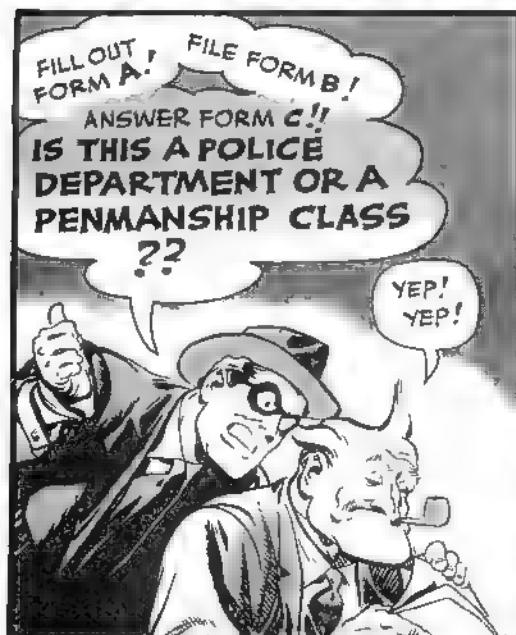
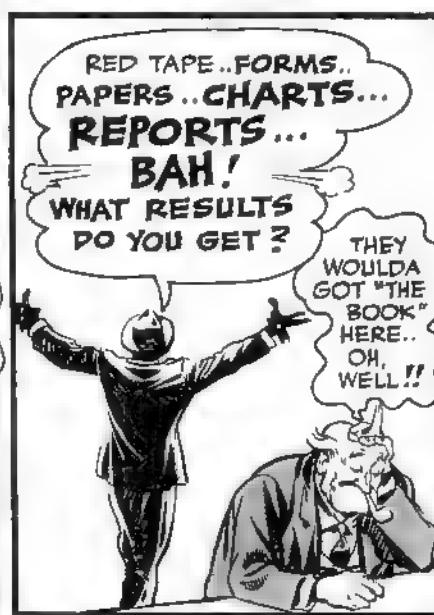
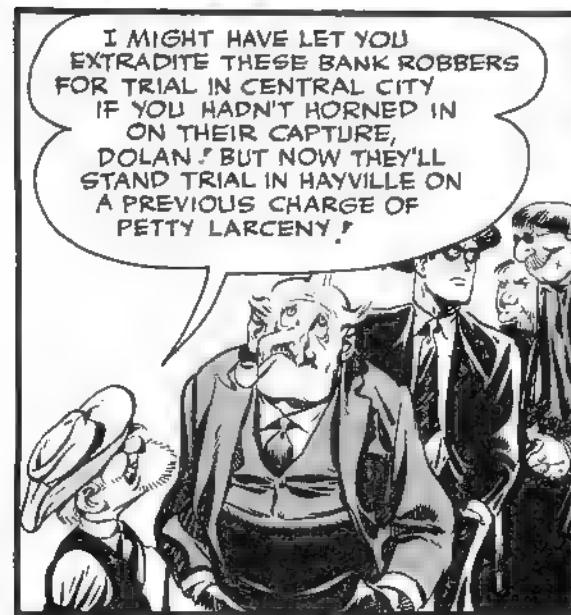
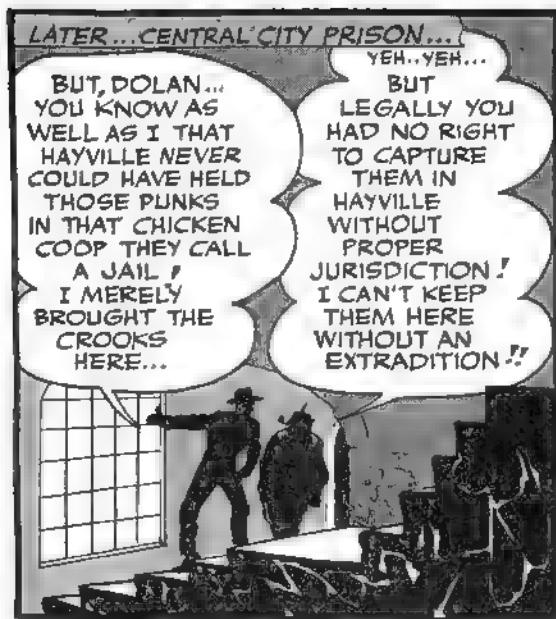
I KNOW HOW
YOU FEEL,
EBONY, BUT NOW
THAT THE
GOVERNOR HAS
MADE ME A 'DEPUTY'
UNDER
COMMISSIONER
DOLAN, LIVING WAY
OUT HERE WILL BE
INCONVENIENT.

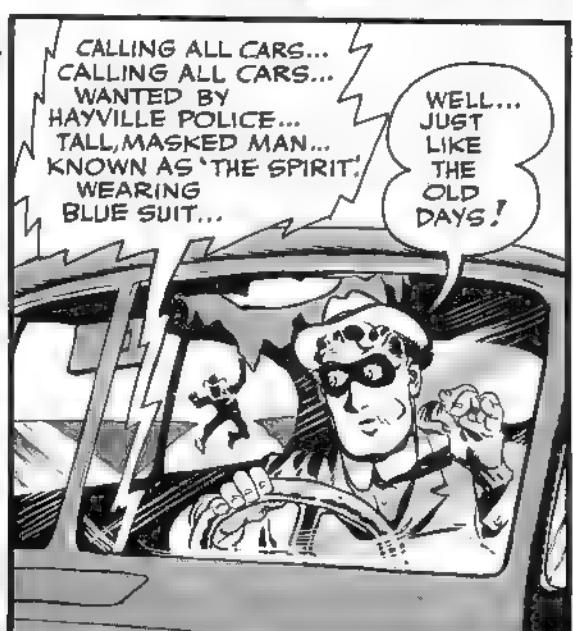
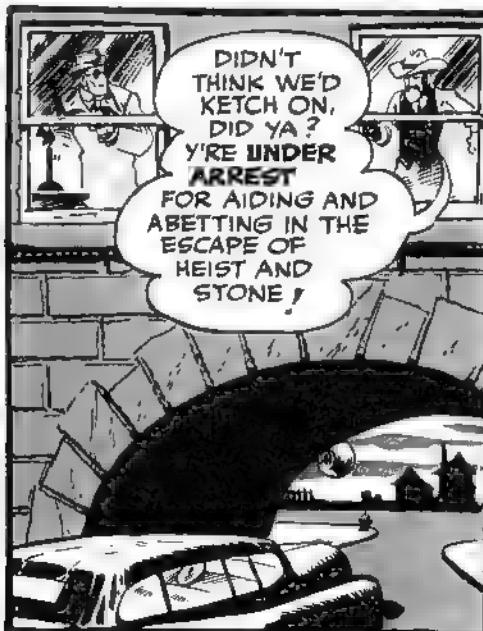
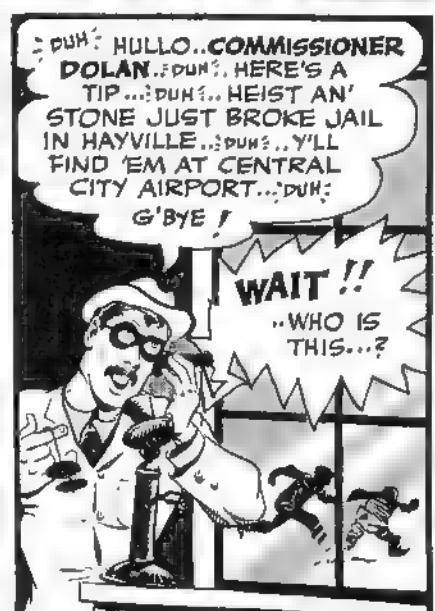
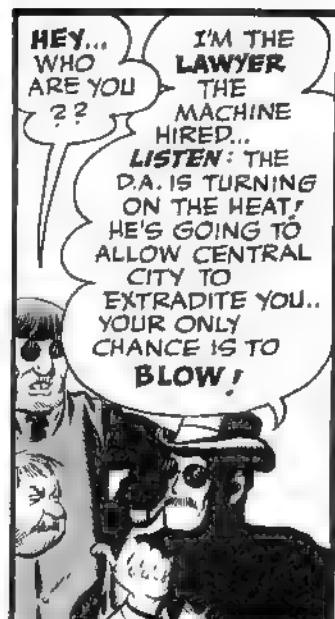
I'VE RENTED AN
APARTMENT IN THE
CITY... WE'LL LIVE
THERE FROM
NOW ON.
GOT YOUR THINGS
PACKED?

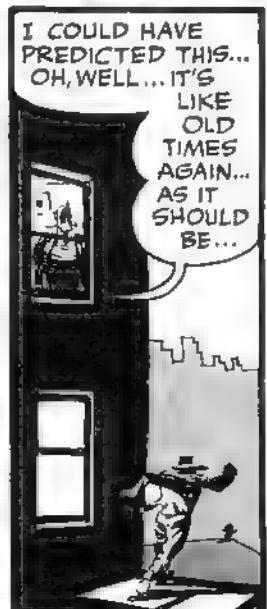
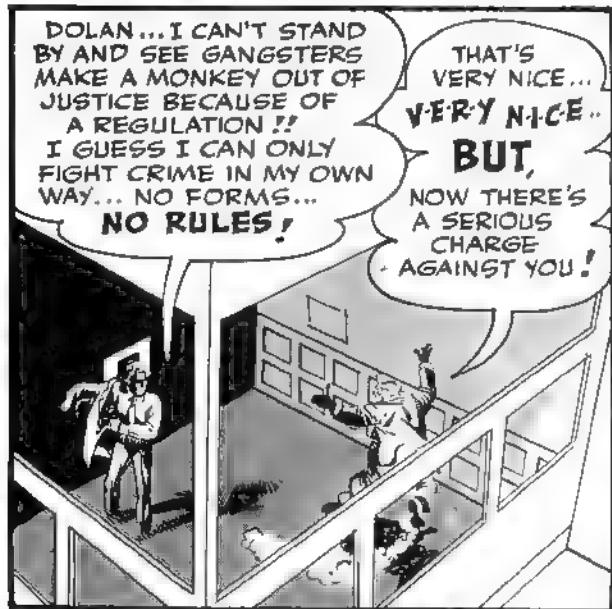
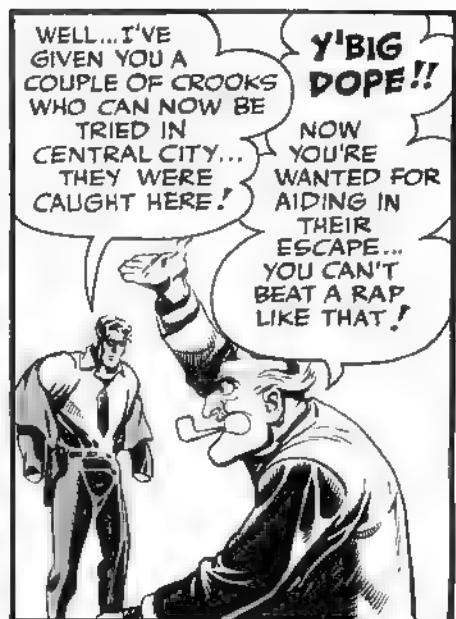












NEXT DAY...

SPIRIT WANTED

MAYOR ALERTS POLICE!!

Commissioner Dolan silent as manhunt begins.

The entire resources of the Central City Police Department are being utilized in the vast dragnet set out to capture the Spirit. Extra duty for all

A'ROBIN HOOD AGAIN?



BE ON LOOKOUT FOR THIS MAN!

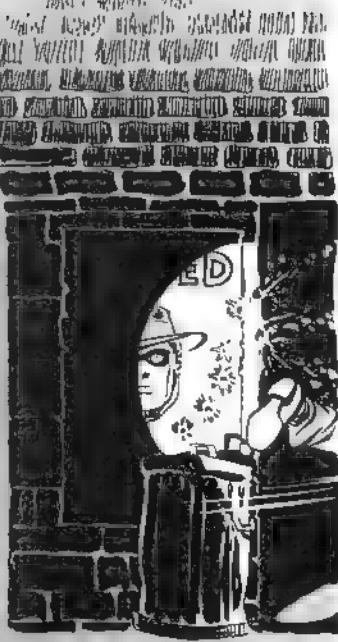
A GENERAL DESCRIPTION FOLLOWS:
HEIGHT- 6 ft 1 in.
WEIGHT- 200 lbs
COLOR OF HAIR- BLACK
COLOR OF EYES- BLUE

AND AT WILDWOOD CEMETERY...

SEE? AH TOLD YO' LIVIN' IN TH' CITY AN' WORKIN' REGULAR WAS NO GOOD! NOW LOOK WHAT IT GOT US! AH WISH SOMEONE AROUN' HERE WOULD LISSEN TO ME! IF AH TOLD YO' ONCE, AH TOLD YO' A THOUSAN' TIMES...



THE HUNTED



CALLING ALL CARS... CALLING ALL CARS... BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE SPIRIT... THE SPIRIT...

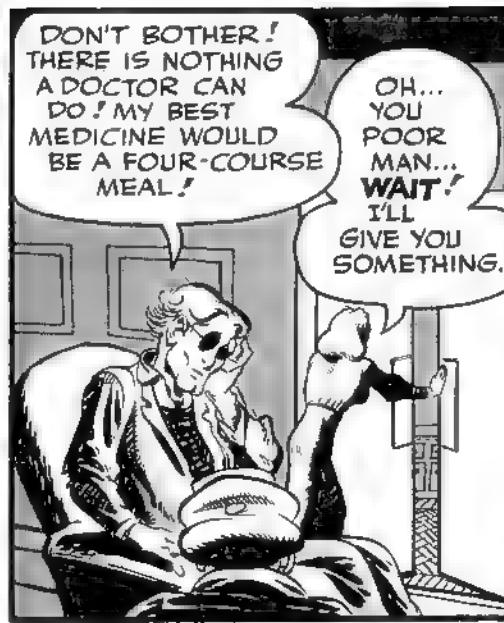


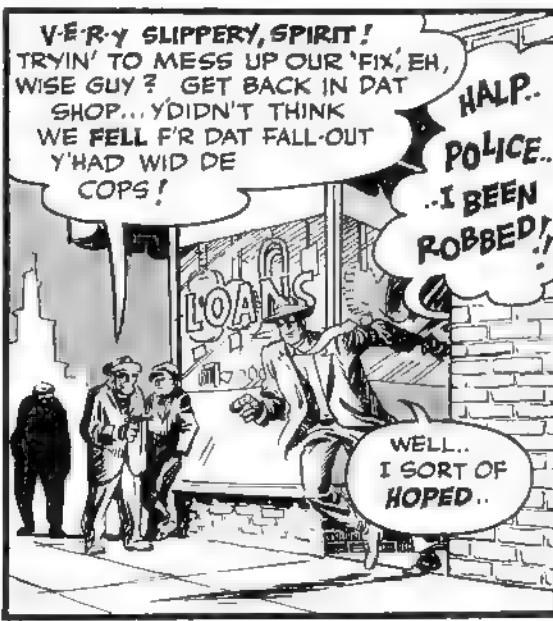
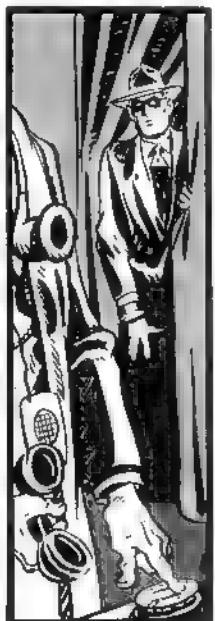
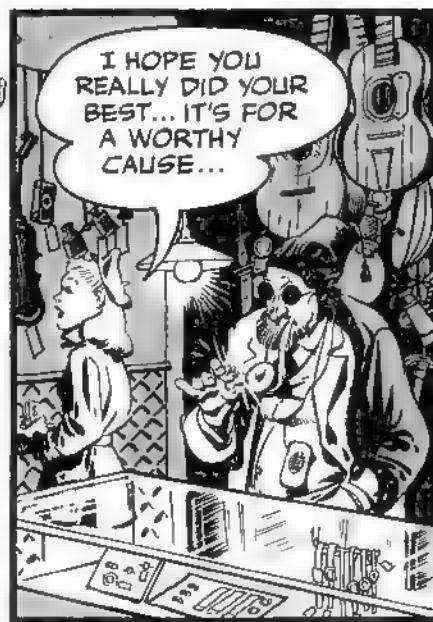
HEIGHT SIX FEET, ONE INCH... WEIGHS 200... WEARING BLUE SUIT... BLUE GLOVES... MASK...
WANTED FOR AIDING IN ESCAPE OF TWO CRIMINALS... HE MAY BE DANGEROUS !!

WELCOME TO
THE UNDERWORLD,
SPIRIT! HOW
DOES IT
FEEL, BEING
HUNTED, INSTEAD
OF THE HUNTER?



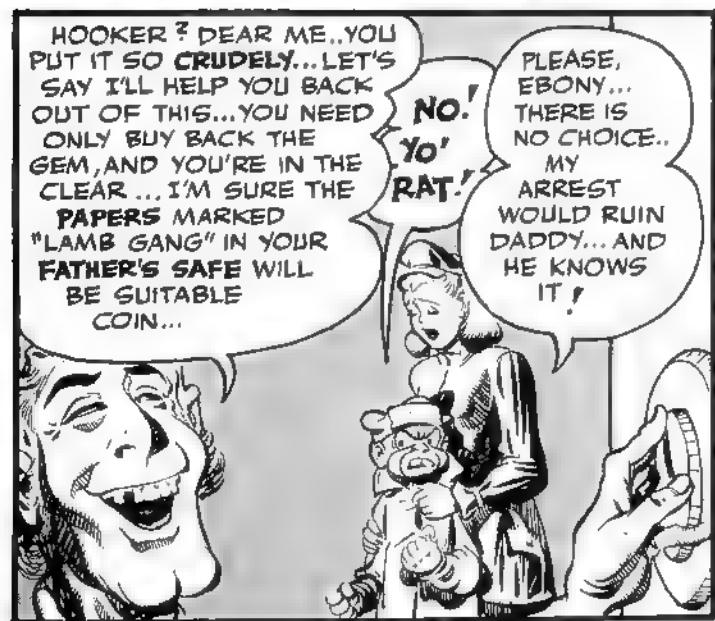
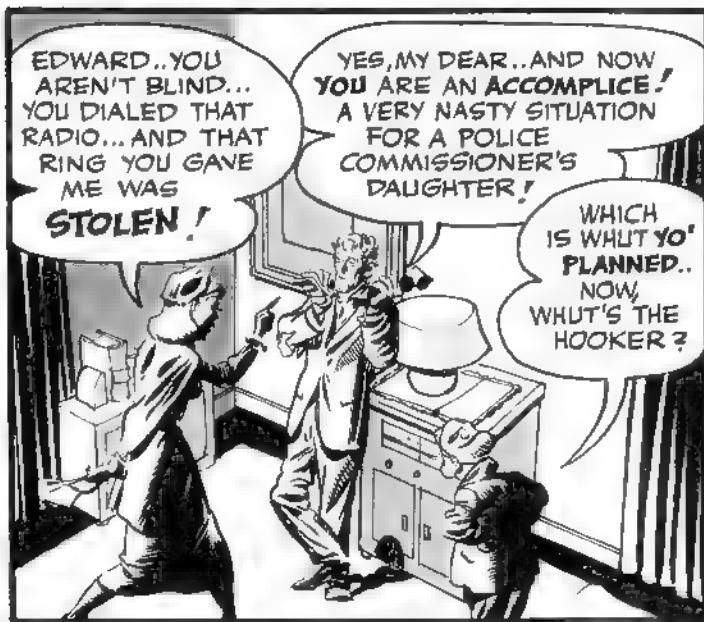
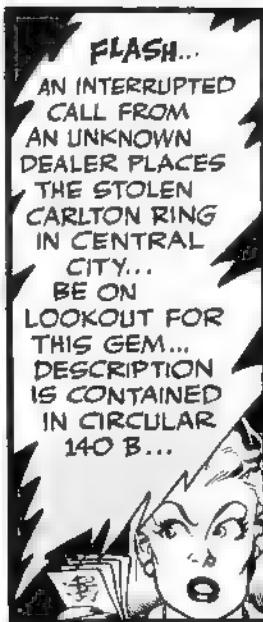


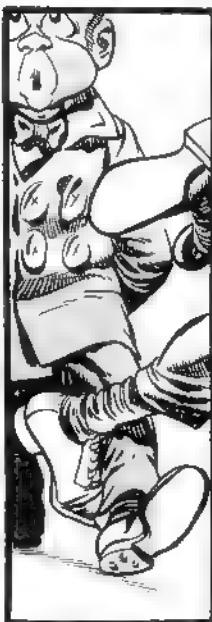




MEANWHILE... BACK AT THE DOLAN HOME...

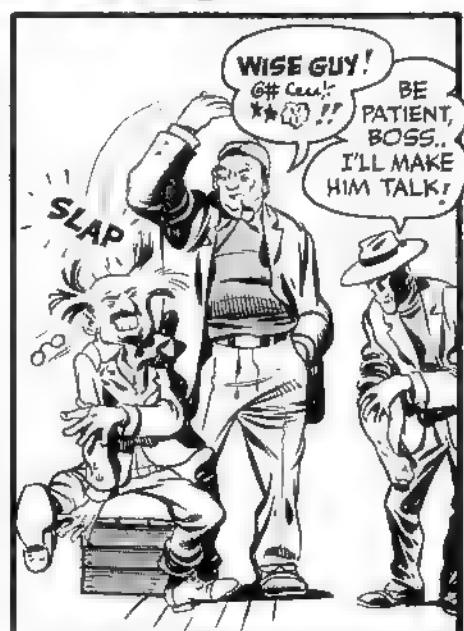


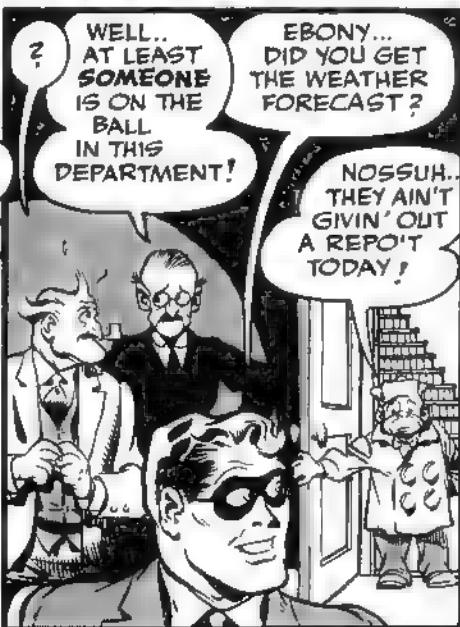


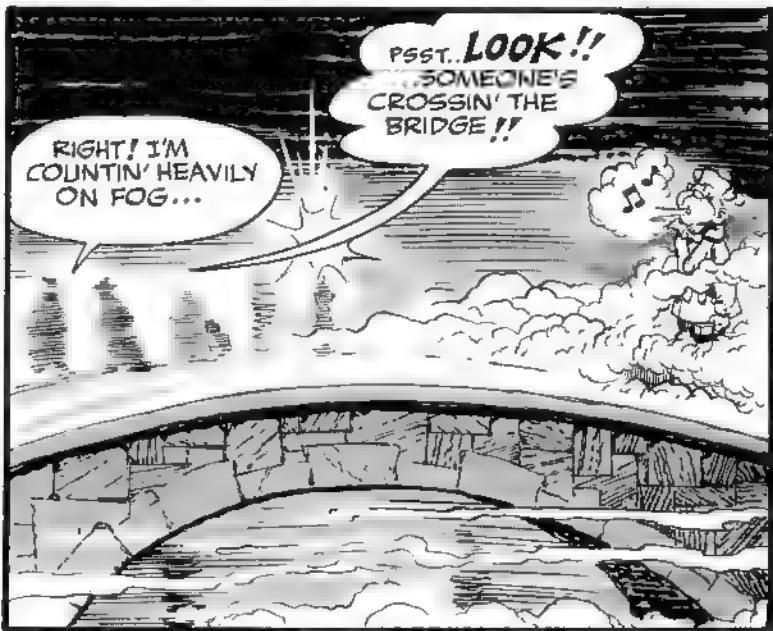
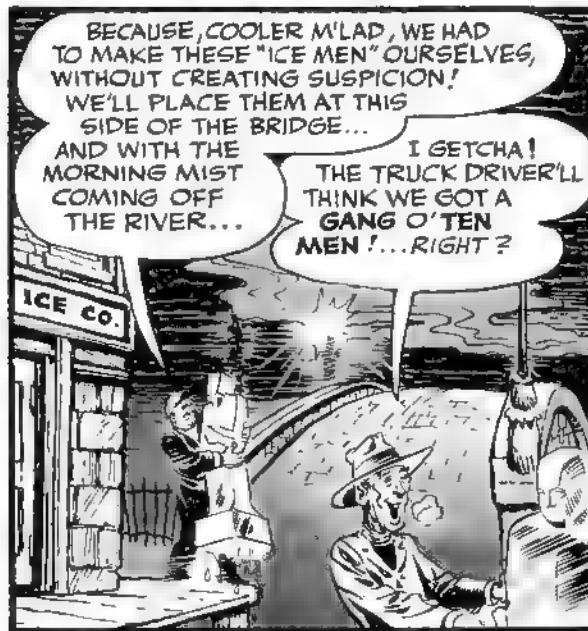
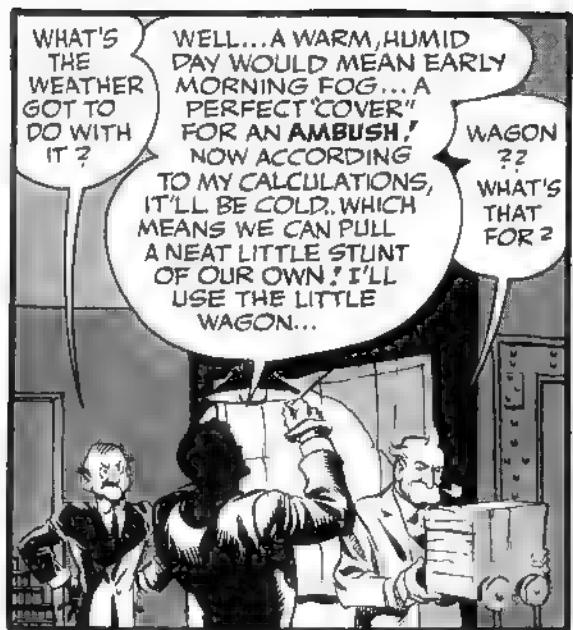


THE PREDICTION









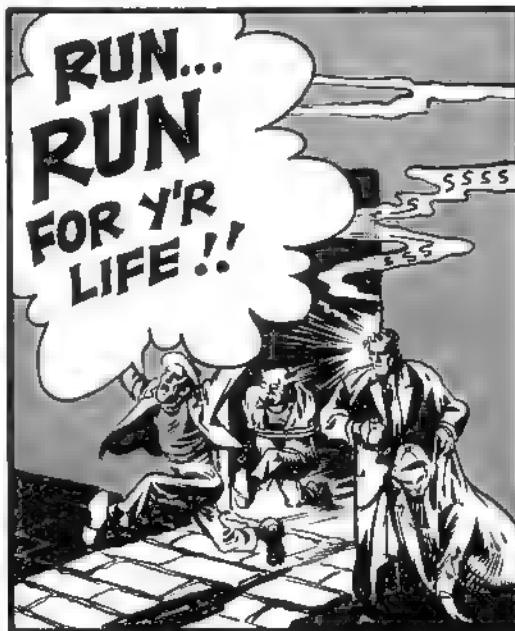
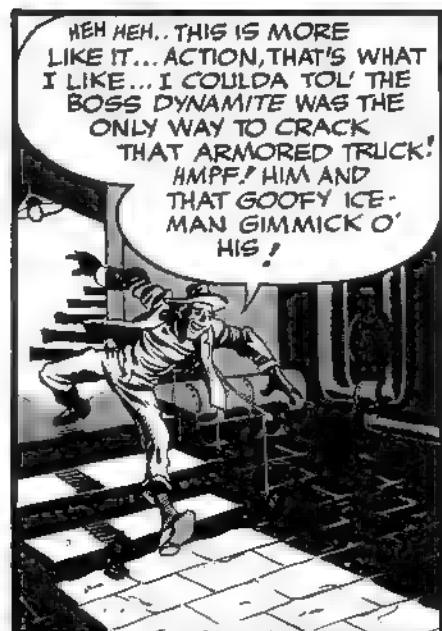


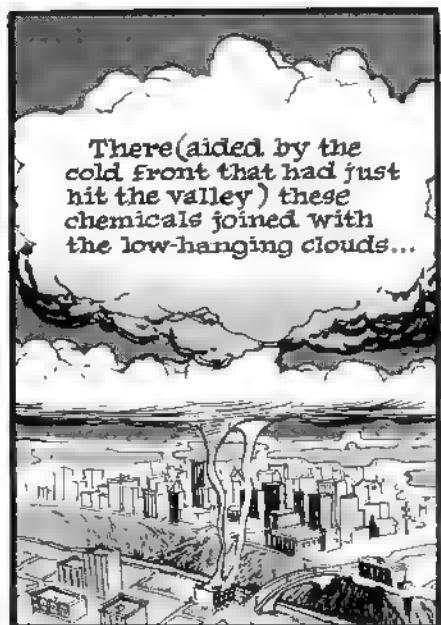
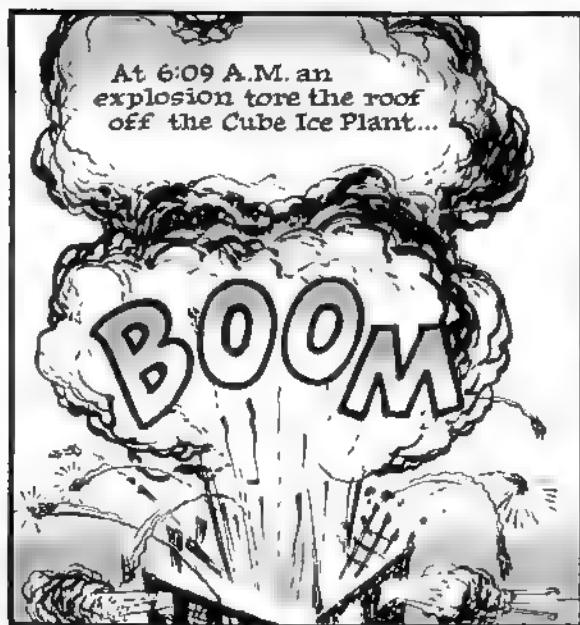
Our scene now shifts northward to the banks of Newfoundland...

WITH UNEXPLAINED SUDDENNESS, THE WIND SHIFTS TO THE SOUTH... AND A COLD AIR MASS MOVES TOWARD THE UNITED STATES. ON A 50-MILE FRONT...

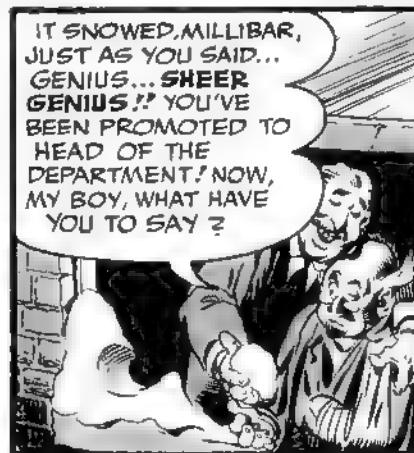
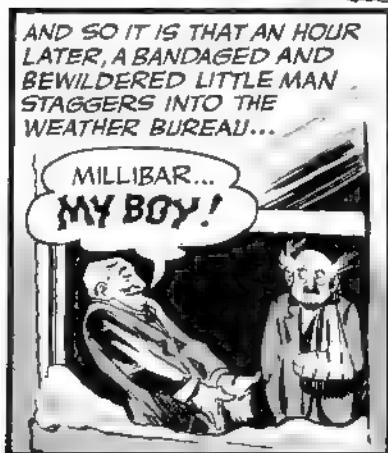
ONCE INLAND, THE CHILLY AIR COLLECTS ITSELF AND INVADES THE WARM VALLEY WHERE CENTRAL CITY LIES BLANKETED IN EARLY SUMMER HEAT... AND FOG...

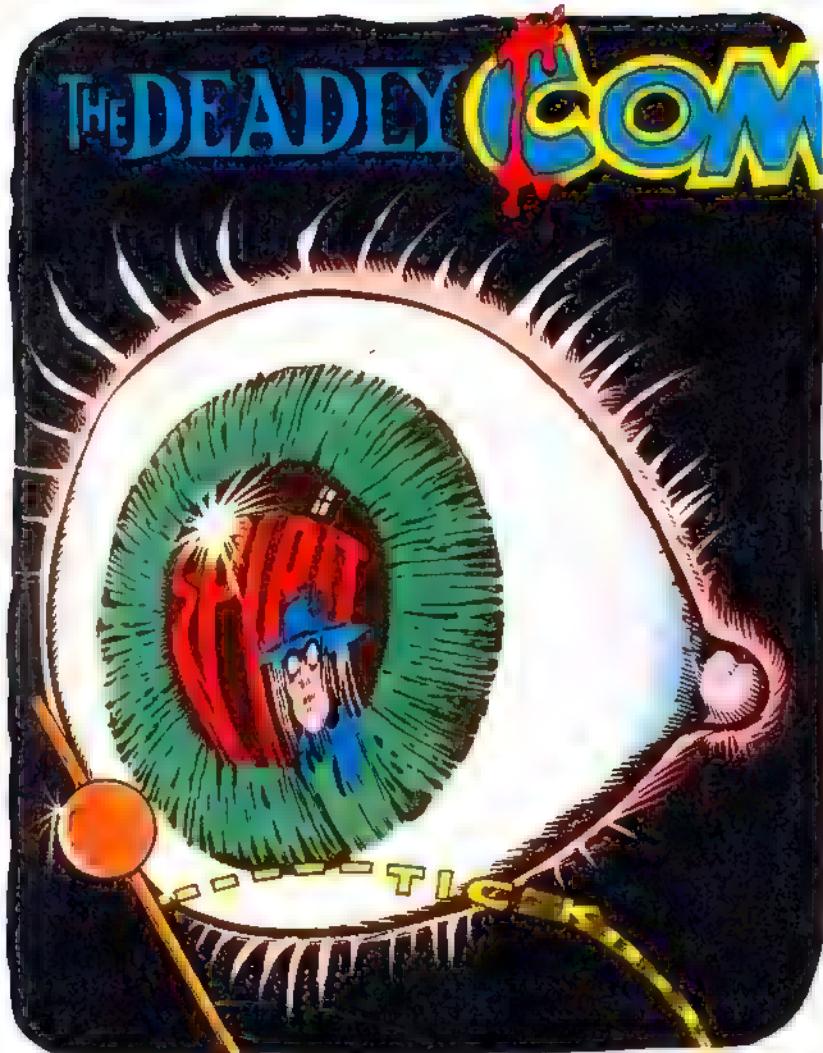






...And for the next twenty minutes, snow fell in Central City Valley..!





UNTIL...

ONE DULL
AND GLOOMY DAY
ON MY WAY TO CLASS
I PAUSED TO WATCH MY
WORTHY COLLEAGUE
DR. WOLFGANG WORRY,
OUR SCHOOL
PSYCHIATRIST, AT
WORK...

HE WAS HOLDING HIS WEEKLY COMIC-BURNING
...OH, A SIMPLE, INNOCENT AFFAIR

TICK--



I WAS MILDLY CURIOUS... I PICKED UP ONE
THAT HAD ESCAPED THE FLAMES... IT WAS
ALL RIGHT... YOU SEE, I AM,
AFTER ALL, AN ADULT, AND (I'M SURE YOU'LL
AGREE) IMMUNE TO SUCH
STORIES...



SUDDENLY... I WAS
SEIZED BY AN
OVERWHELMING
FEAR... I COULD SEE
NOTHING... BUT I
WAS CERTAIN I WAS
BEING FOLLOWED!

I SWUNG BACK...
DASHED UP THE
PRIVATE TEACHERS'
ENTRANCE...



CLICK
CLACK
CLICK
CLACK

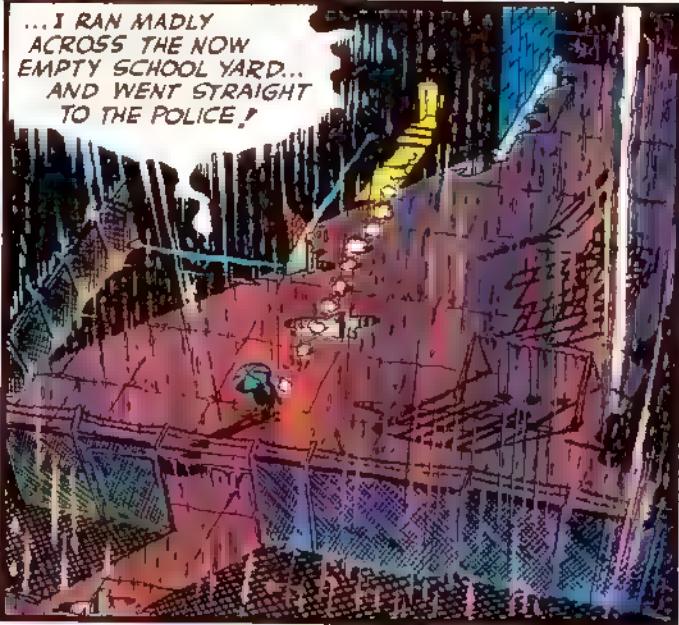


AND THERE IN THE AWFUL SILENCE I SAW IT...
THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF WHAT WAS TO COME...



AS I STOOD THERE,
ALL THE TERROR I HAD
ABSORBED FROM THE
COMIC I HAD JUST READ
BEGAN SEEPING
FROM ME IN A
COLD, CLAMMY
SWEAT....

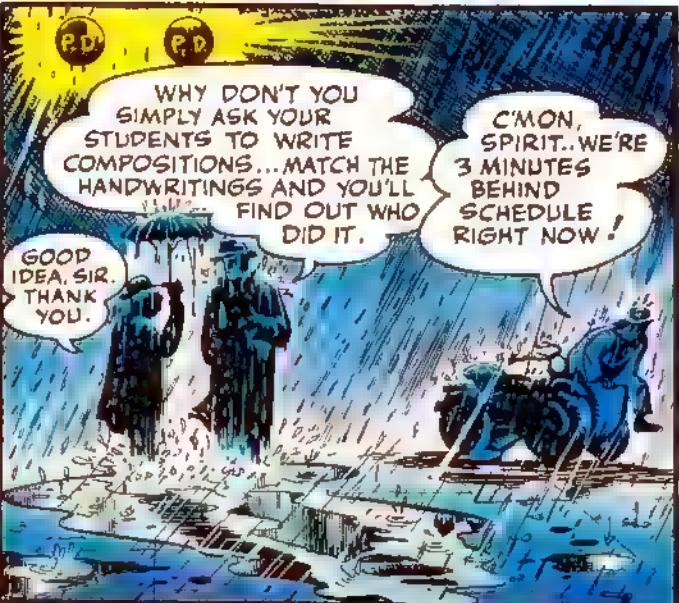
...I RAN MADLY
ACROSS THE NOW
EMPTY SCHOOL YARD...
AND WENT STRAIGHT
TO THE POLICE!



...I TELL YOU, COMMISSIONER
DOLAN... THE LITTLE FIEND
WHO WROTE THAT NOTE
WILL STOP AT NOTHING
TO GET BACK THAT
BOOK! WHY, ONLY THE
OTHER DAY I READ IN THE
PAPERS WHERE

OOH.. I'M SURE
I'M DOOMED!!

YEH, YEH, YEH...
NOW SUPPOSE
YOU FILE YOUR
COMPLAINT WITH
SERGEANT GOLDBERG
DOWN IN THE JUVENILE
DIVISION.. I'M BUSY!!



POOR OL' DUCK... BET HE'S
GOT HIS HANDS FULL WITH
THOSE KIDS.. TROUBLE
IS, THOSE HORROR
MAGAZINES INFLUENCE
THE KIDS' MINDS...
TAKE THOSE
BOOKS THAT
PUBLISH YOUR
ADVENTURES..
FANTASTIC
STUFF!

HANG ON,
DOLAN
HERE'S THE
OLD
BRIDGE!
AND SIT
STEADY.. IT'LL
BE A TRICKY
BALANCE...



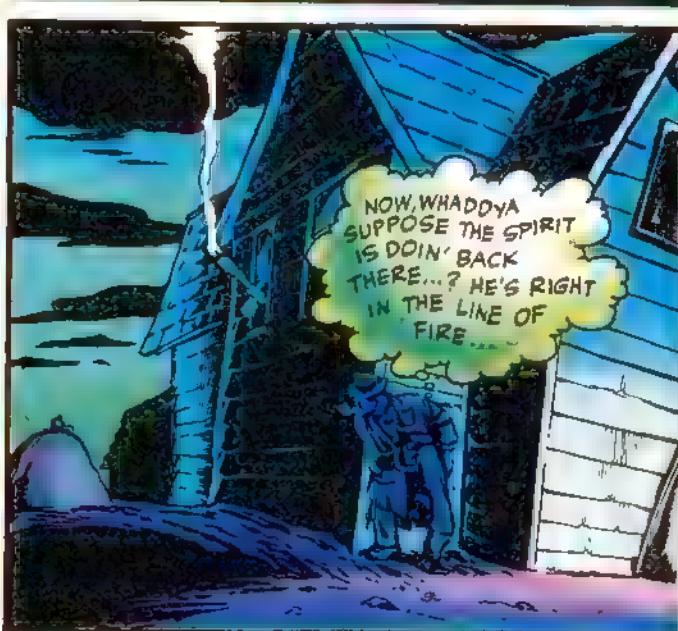
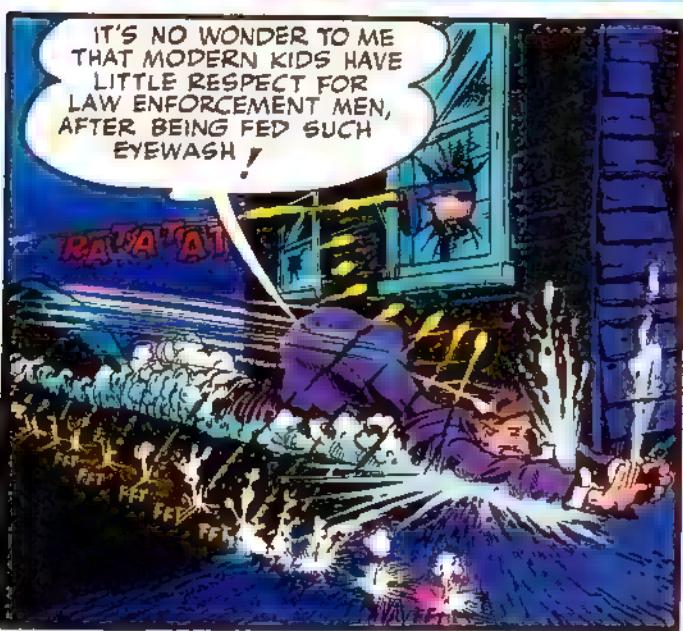
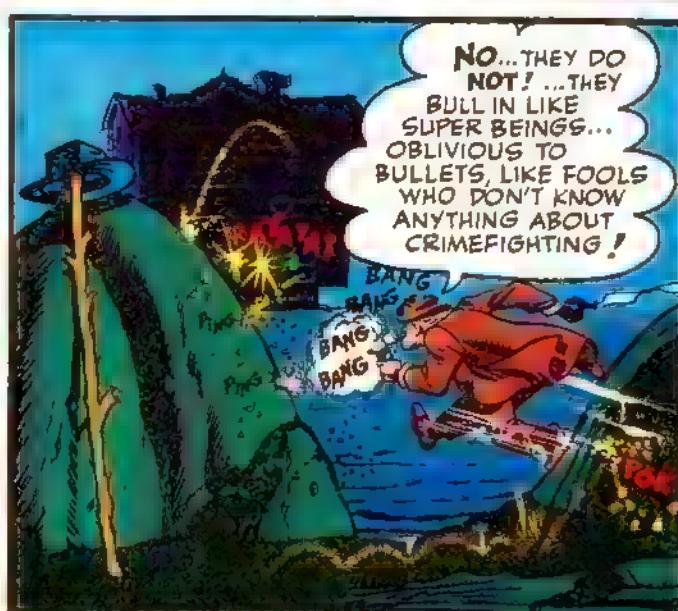
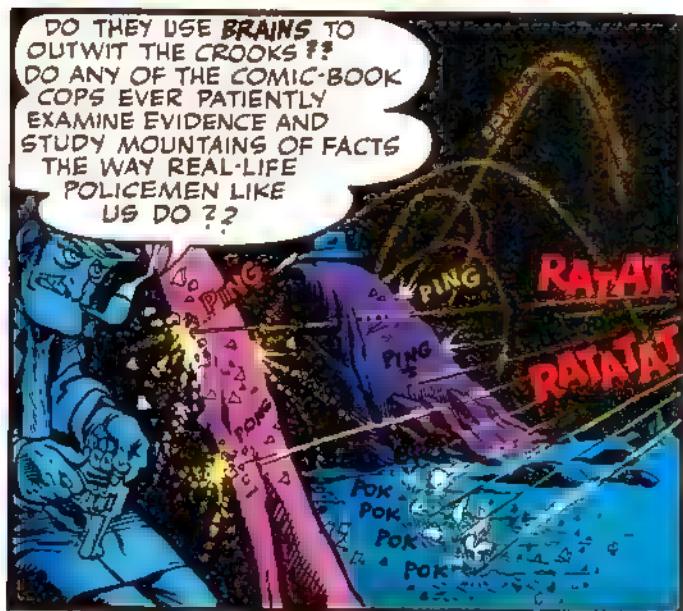
YOU'LL HAVE
TO ADMIT THAT
MOST OF THAT
STUFF IS HIGHLY
EXAGGERATED...

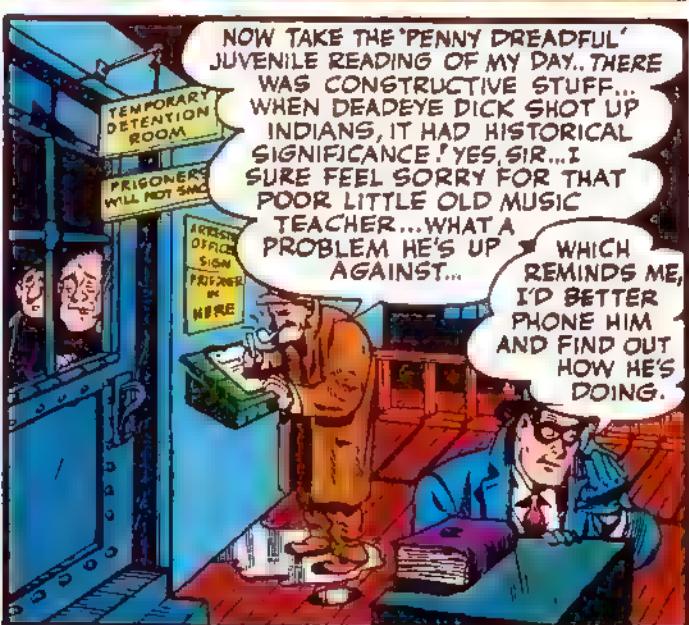


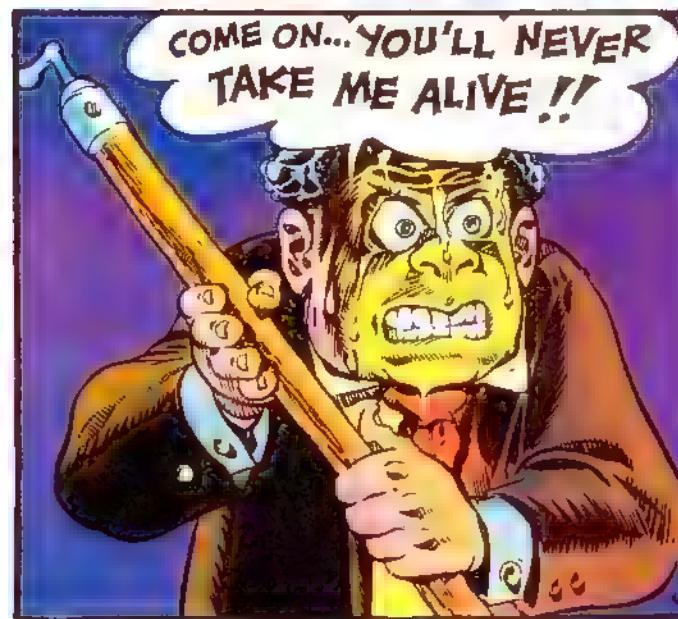
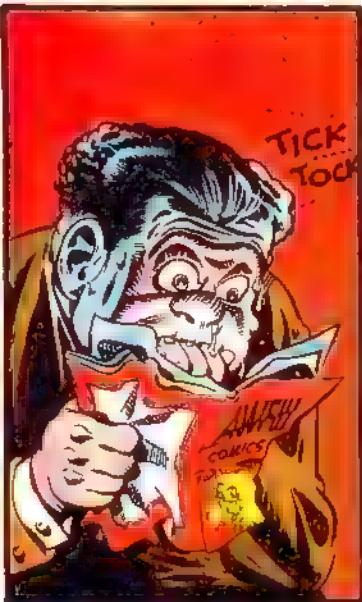
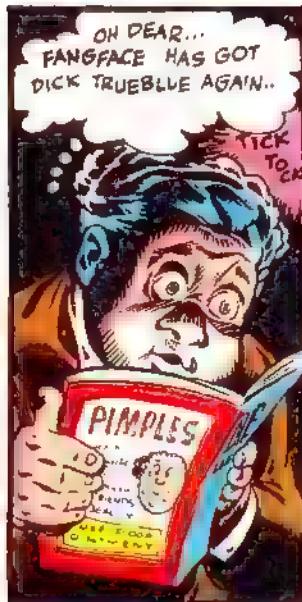
...AND
THOSE GHOULISH
CROOKS AND
FIENDISH VILLAINS..
ABSOLUTE
UNFOUNDED
NONSENSE.

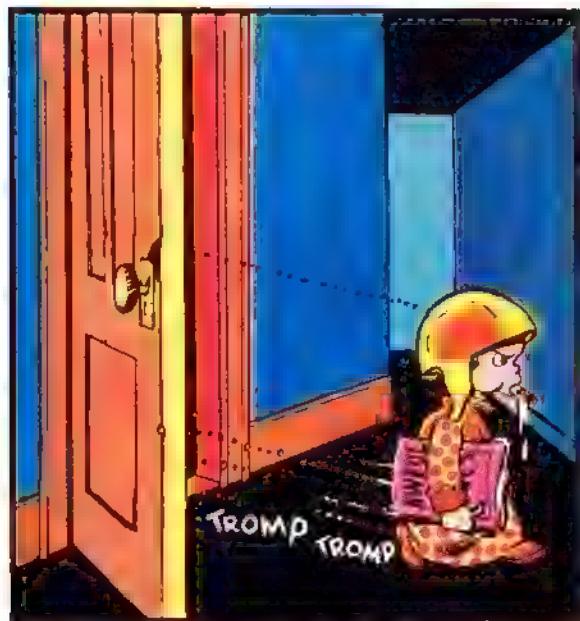
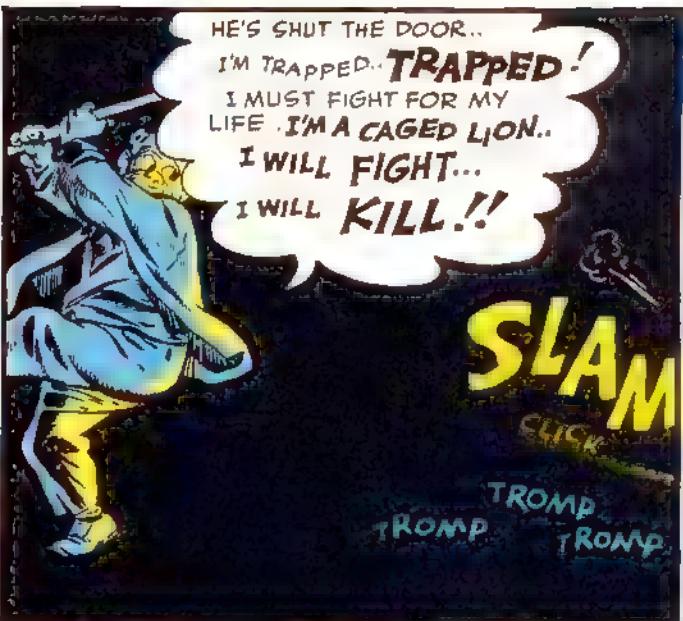
PIPE DREAMS!

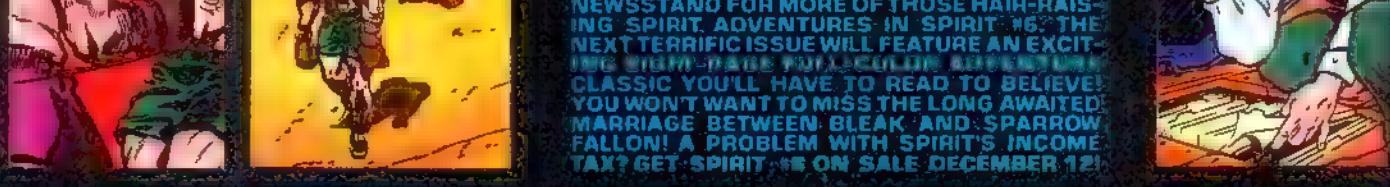
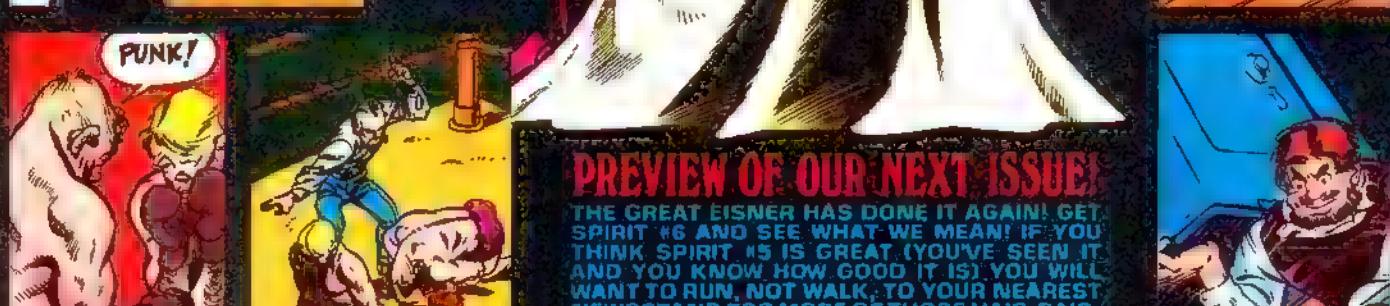
KEEP YOUR
HEAD LOW.
DOLAN... THEY'RE
OPENING UP
ON US...











DEATH, TAXES and...

By Will Eisner



The Collector
Internal Revenue Dept.
Central-Federal Bldg.
Central City

Gentlemen:

On March 15, last, at 6:30 PM e.s.t., Socrates Grime left his apartment at 2125 West 112th Street with the intention of mailing his completed Federal Income Tax Return. He was a clerk by trade and a man given to precise habits. He had made an appointment downtown for 6:53 PM. There was absolutely no doubt in his mind that he would be there... without fail.

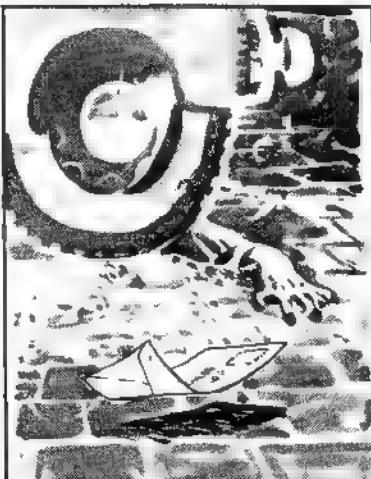
...but as we all know,
only two things are
certain.



...Death



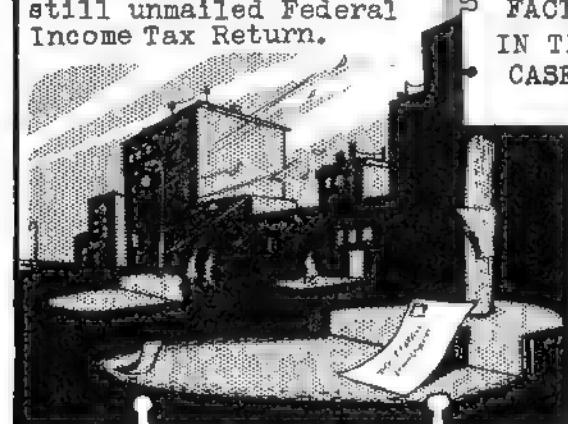
AND TAXES...



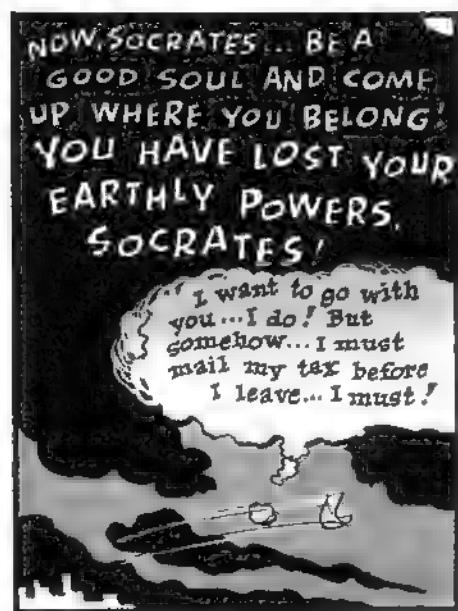
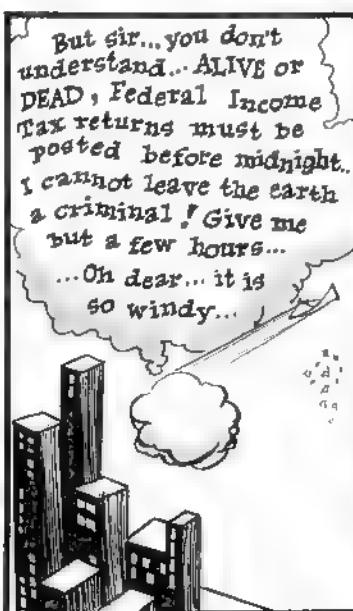
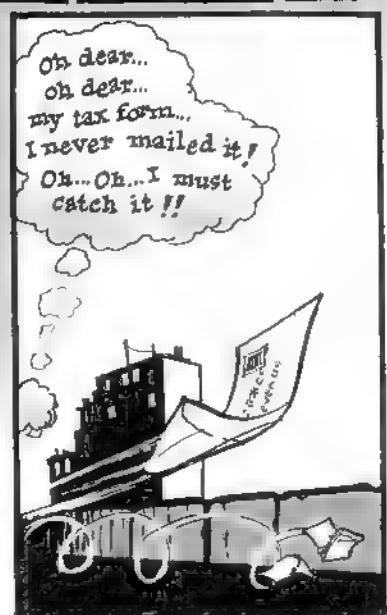
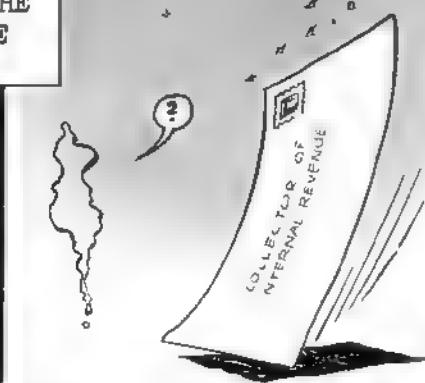
At 6:34 PM, Mr. Socrates Grime jay-walked against the lights and was killed. Very clearly, the motorist who ran him down was entirely without fault.

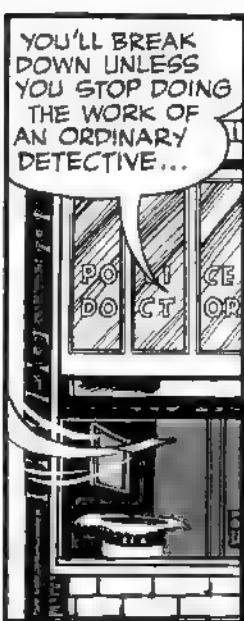


In a few minutes the crowd dispersed. His mortal remains were carried off, and all that was left to mark his unexpected death was the howling March wind and a still unmailed Federal Income Tax Return.

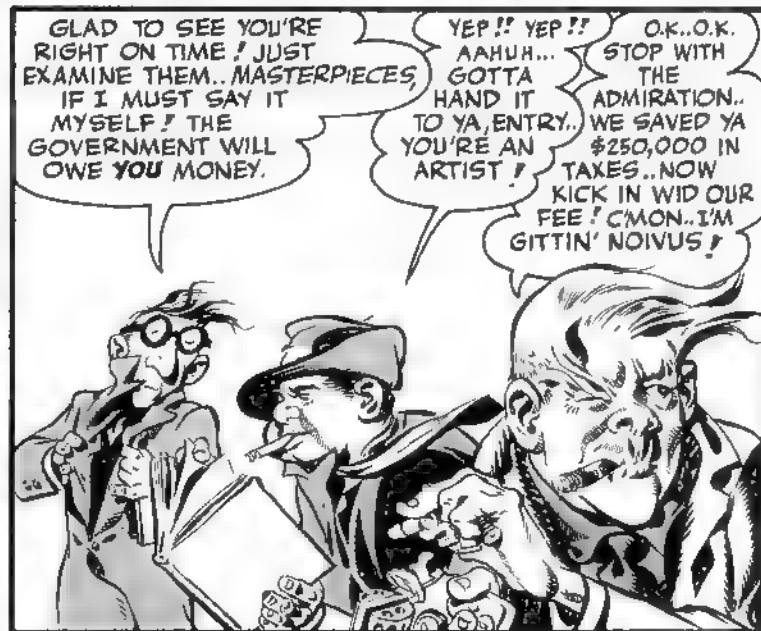
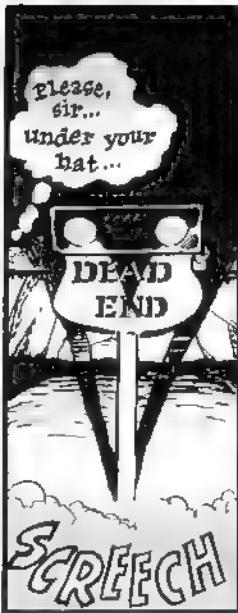


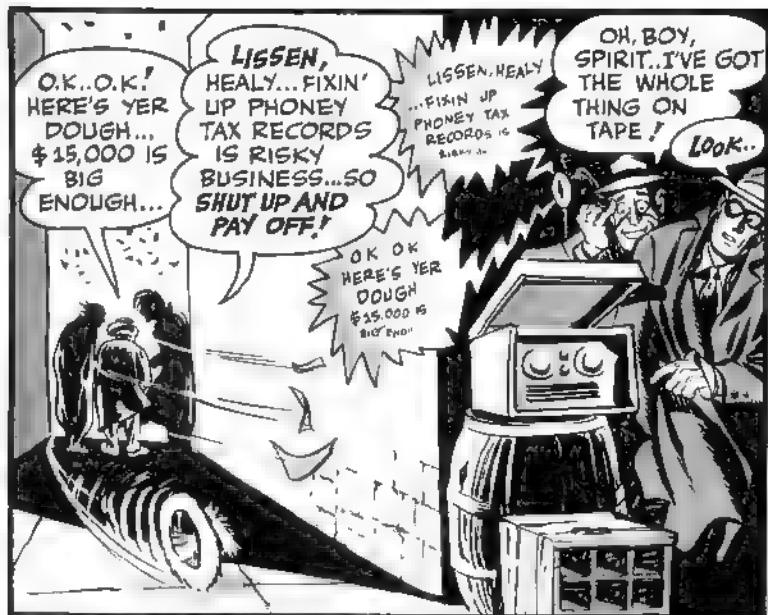
THE REST OF WHAT HAPPENED BEGAN AT THE MOMENT THE SOUL OF MR. GRIME HALTED IN ITS RISE TO THE GREAT BEYOND...



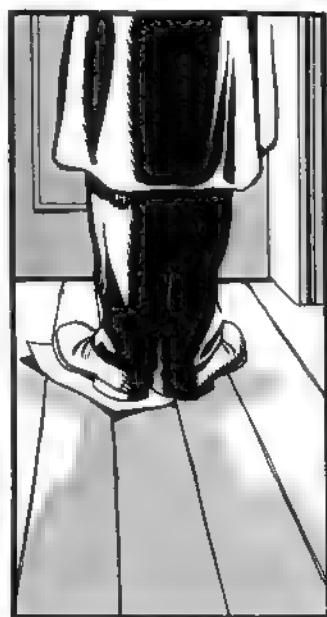
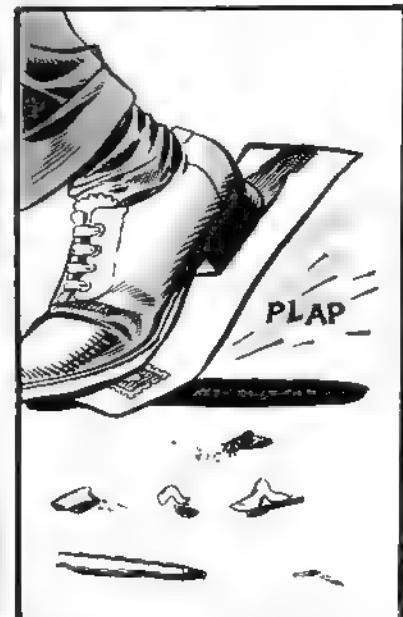
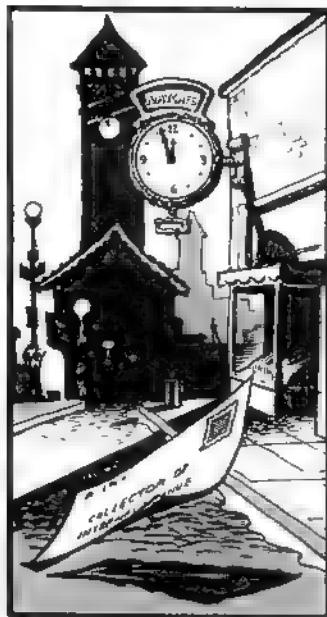


TWENTY MINUTES LATER...









UNCLE CREEPY**COUSIN EERIE**

UNCLE CREEPY painted by SANJULIAN 28" x 20" of pulsating pigments! Companion to Eerie, companion to 6" Vampi! #2948, **UNCLE CREEPY POSTER**, \$2.00

COUSIN EERIE painted by SANJULIAN 28" x 20" of horrendous hues! There's never been such a portrait! #2946, **COUSIN EERIE POSTER**, \$2.00

VAMPIRELLA



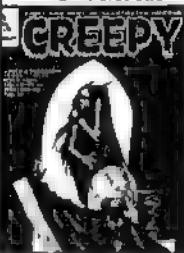
FREE POSTER! Given to anyone who subscribes to **VAMPIRELLA** Magazine for 2 years! You can't lose on this amazing offer! See subscription coupon elsewhere this issue!

6
FEET
TALL

#2928 **6 FT.
VAMPIRELLA**
Full-Color \$2.98

WARREN POSTERS

#2940 Side One



#2940 Side Two

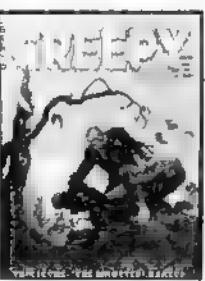


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16" x 22" Full Color on both sides. Order one copy for \$1.00 or two copies for \$1.50! #2940

FAMOUS MONSTERS

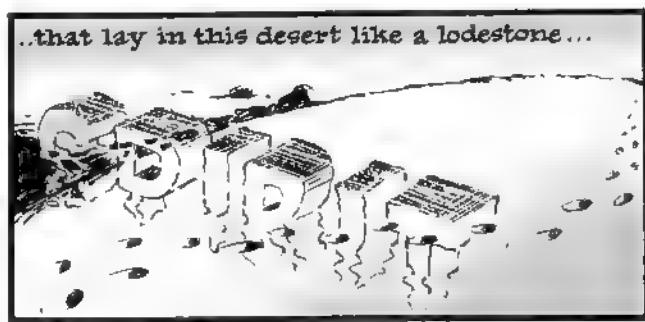
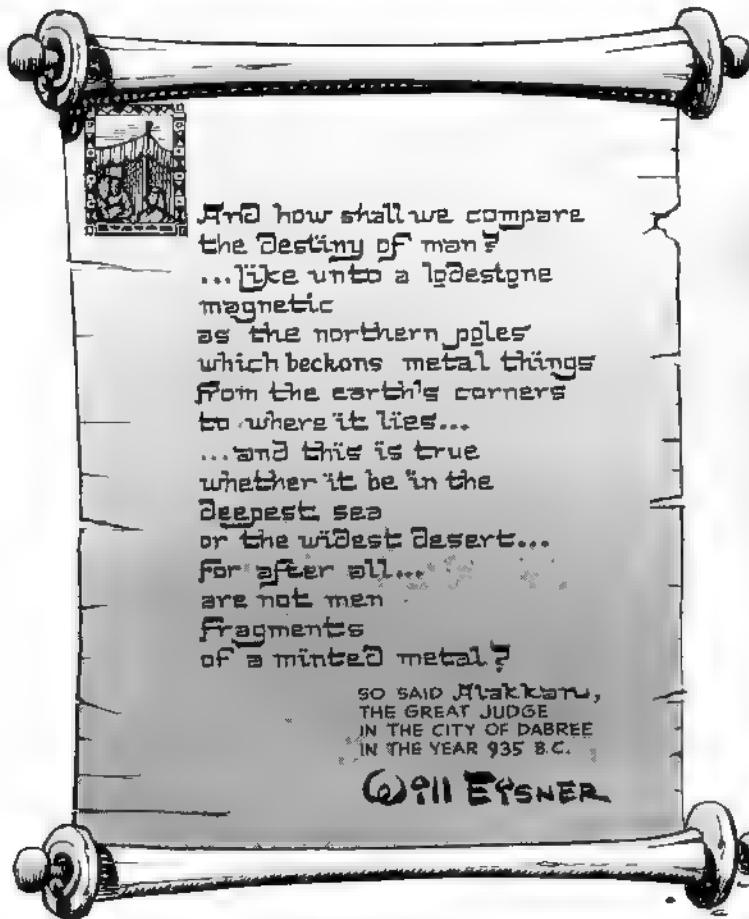
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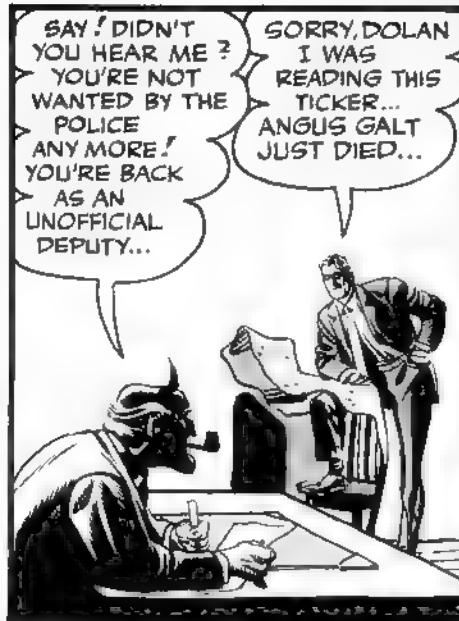
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22" x 28" #2918 \$2.50EERIE #57 Cover Full Color
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20" x 28" #2962 \$2.00CREPY #7 Cover Full Color
28" x 20" #2951, \$2.00CREPY #10 Cover Full Color
28" x 20" #2952, \$2.00CREPY #11 Cover Full Color
28" x 20" #2953, \$2.00FM #93 Cover Full Color
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To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine
for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

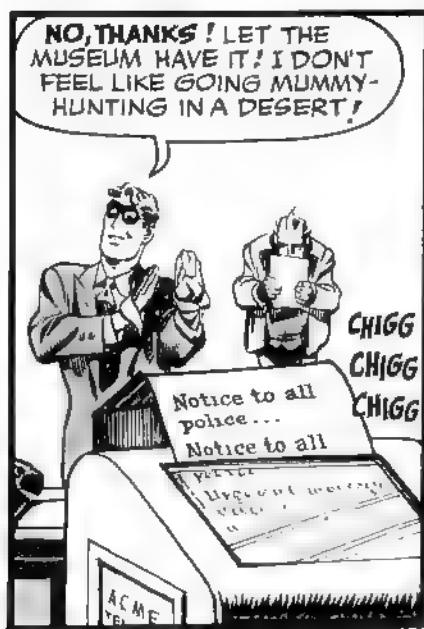
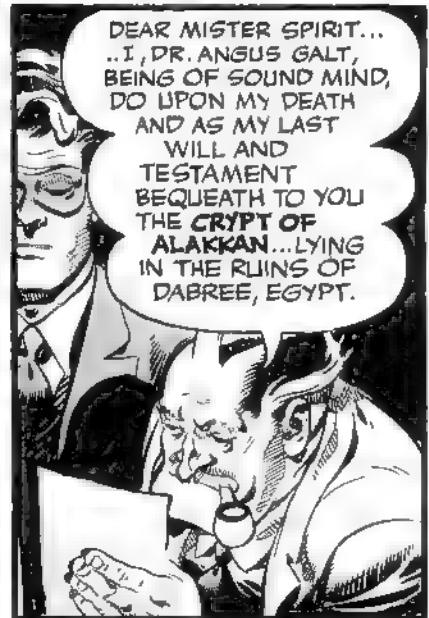
Hamid Jebrul

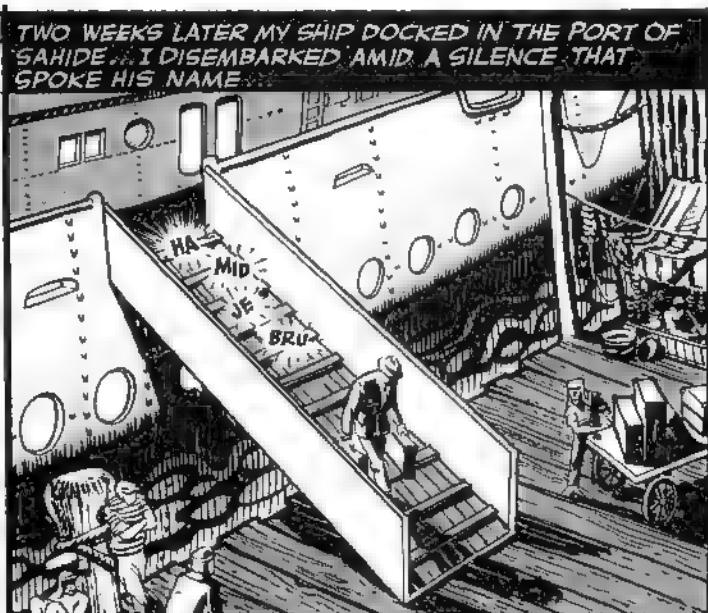
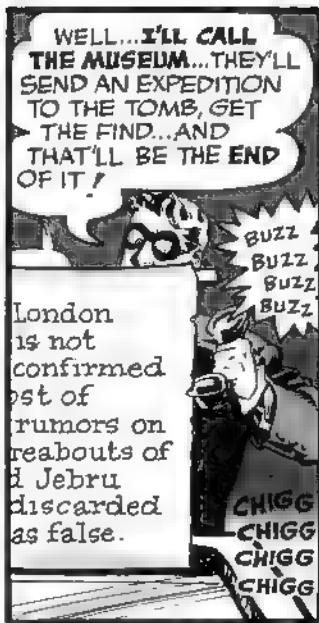


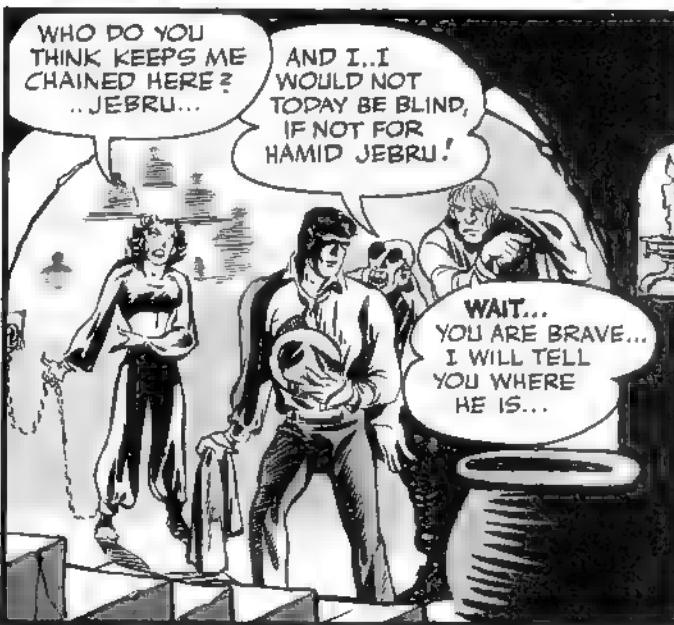
UP UNTIL A MONTH AGO, I HAD NEVER HEARD OF HAMID JEBRU...



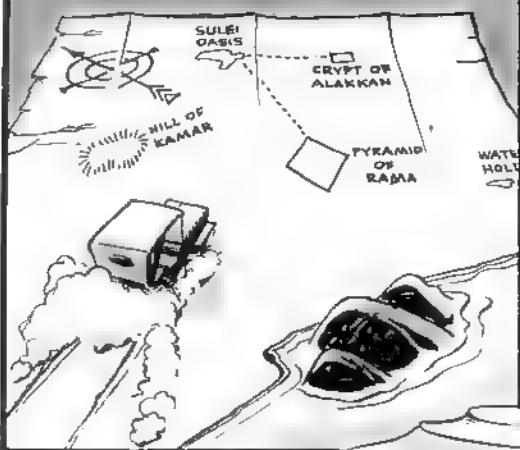
... AND THAT'S HOW IT ALL BEGAN... QUIETLY... BUT FIRMLY WITH THE FORCE OF GRAVITY THAT GRIPS YOU AS YOU LEAP FROM A GREAT HEIGHT...



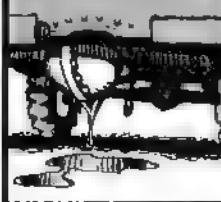




NOW IT WAS SIMPLY A MATTER OF GETTING TO THE CRYPT OF ALAKKAN FIRST! I BOUGHT A JEEP AND SCANNED THE MAP THE BEGGAR HAD GIVEN ME... BY NOON I WAS RACING ACROSS THE HOT SANDS...



BY NIGHTFALL...



BY DAWN OF THE NEXT DAY...



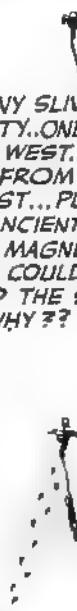
LATE THAT AFTERNOON I SAW THE CRYPT... AND... A TINY SPECK ABOUT A HALF MILE AWAY, RACING MADLY TOWARD THE RUINS... I KNEW WHO IT WAS...



I RAN... DRAWN TO IT WITH A FORCE THAT MADE MY EARS RING...



TWO TINY SLIVERS OF HUMANITY... ONE FROM THE FAR WEST... THE OTHER FROM THE FAR EAST... PULLED BY AN ANCIENT CRYPT WHOSE MAGNETIC FORCE COULD REACH BEYOND THE SEA... WHY? WHY??



IN A FEW MINUTES...



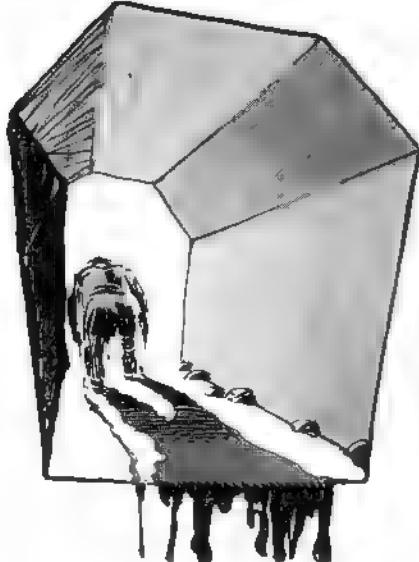
I WOULD KNOW.

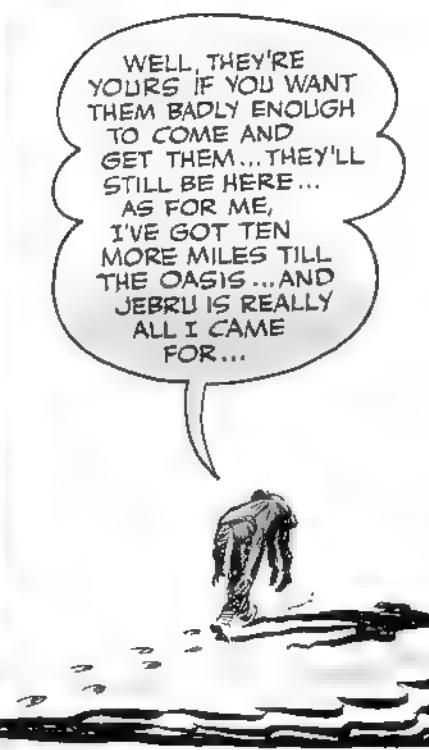
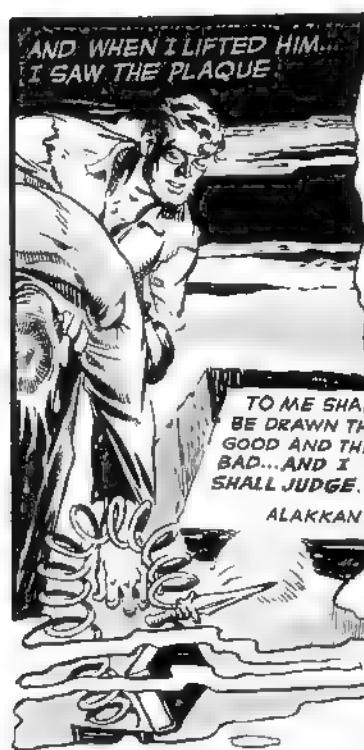


AND AT LONG LAST I FOUND WHAT I HAD BEEN SEEKING... THE CRYPT OF ALAKKAN... AND HAMID JEBRU!



FOR A LONG, LONG MOMENT THERE WAS SILENCE... THEN THE CRYPT RANG WITH OUR FOOTFALLS AS WE APPROACHED...

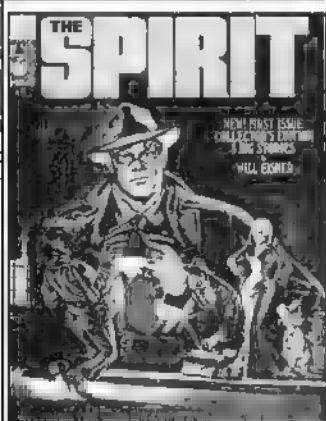




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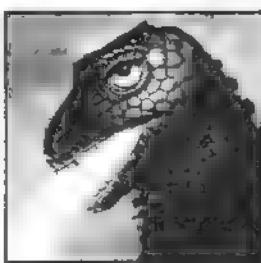
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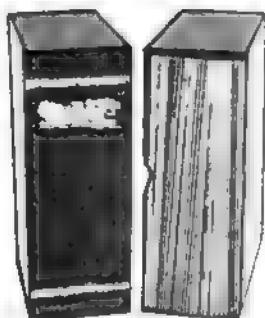


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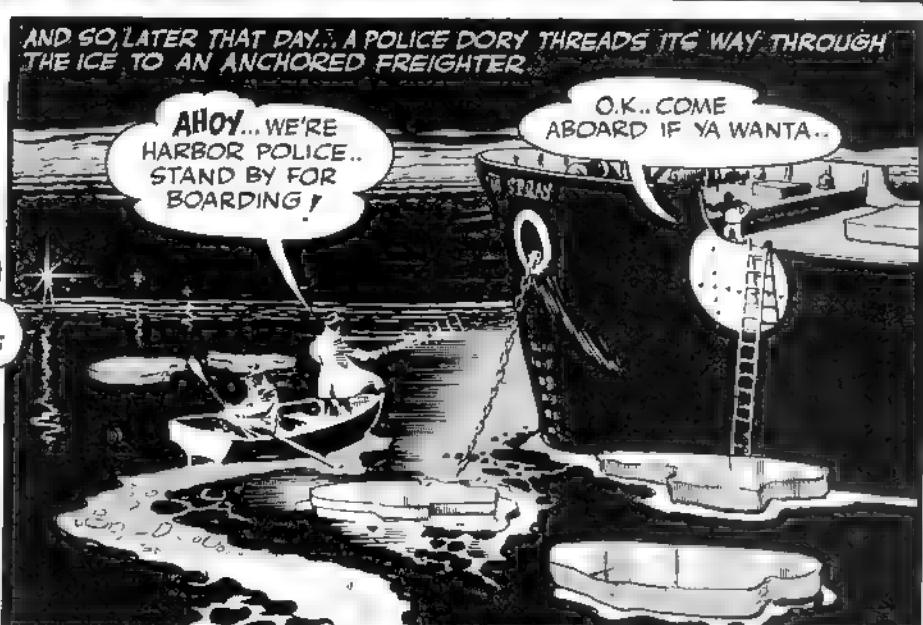
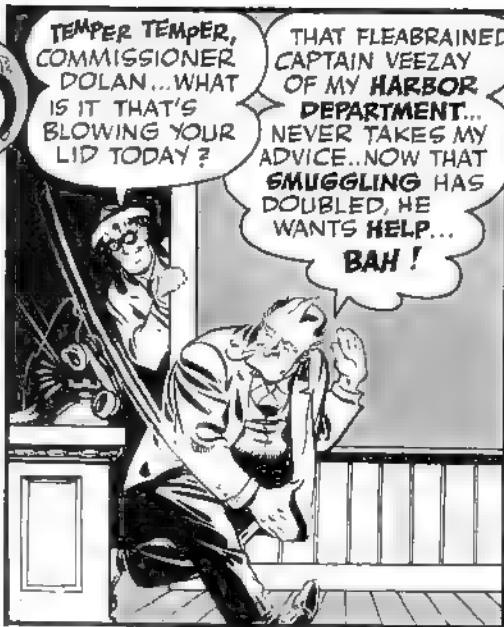
"ICE!"

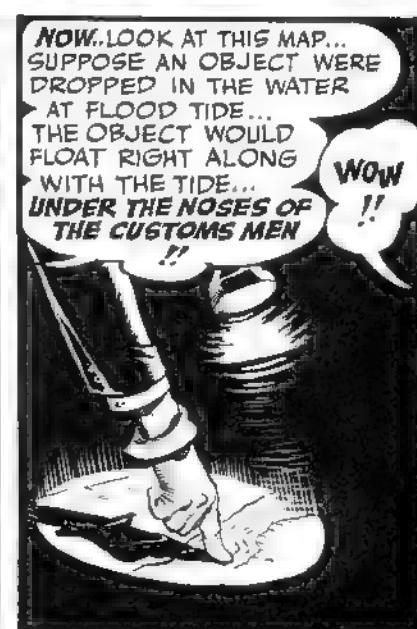
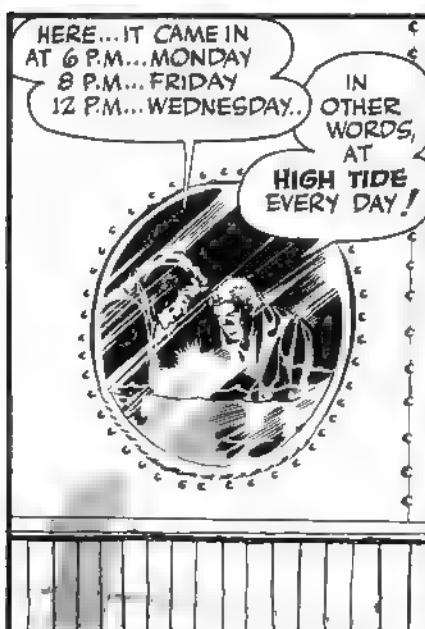
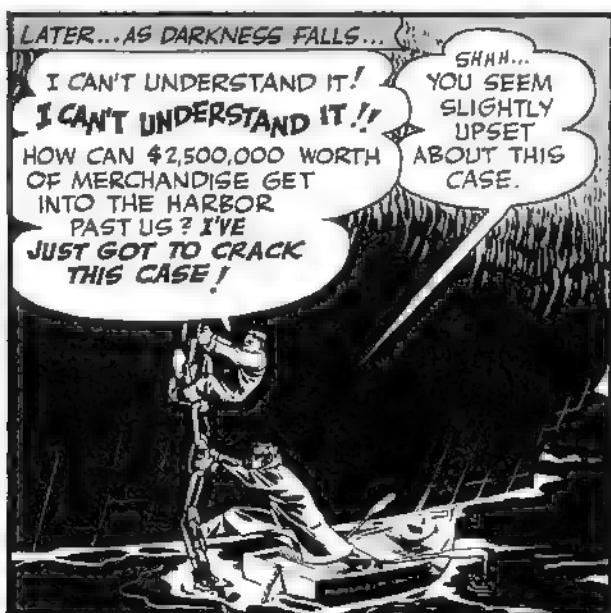
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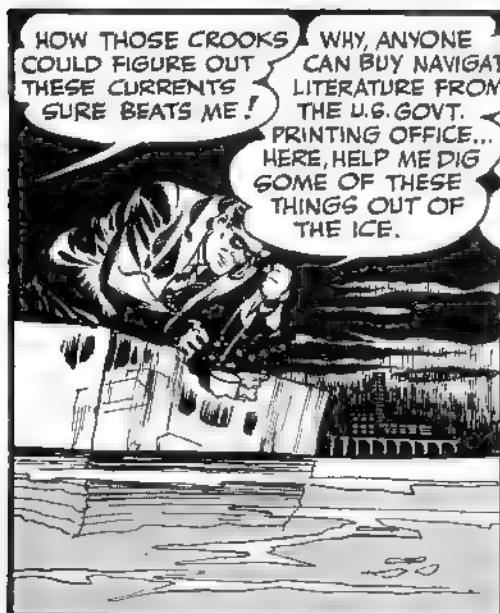
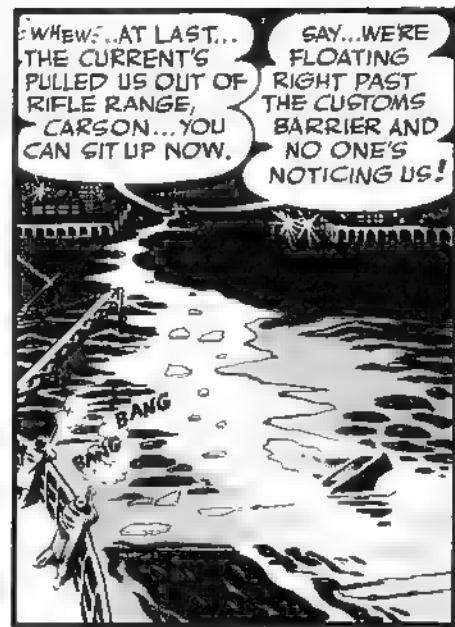
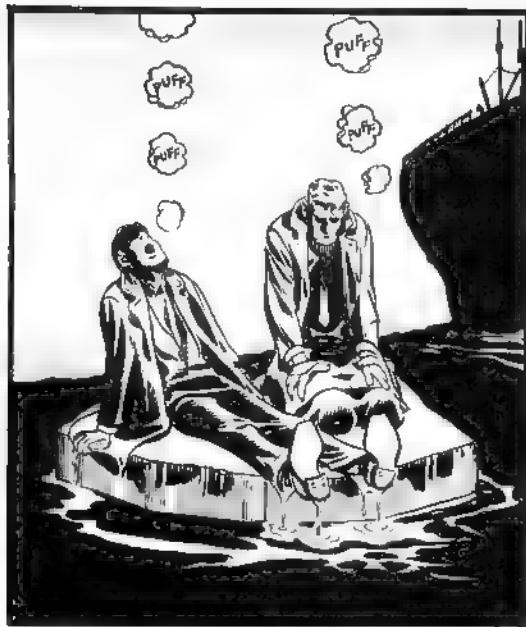
...in fact, nothing gets by their watchful eyes...

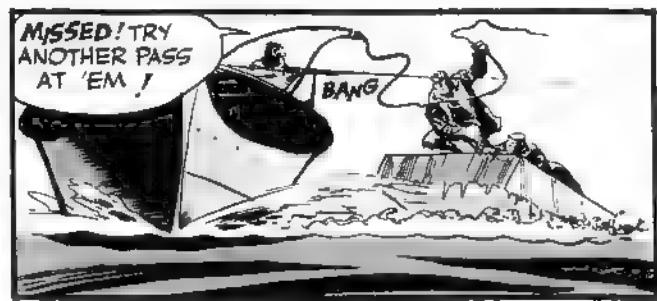
Except, maybe, on cold January days... an ice floe...











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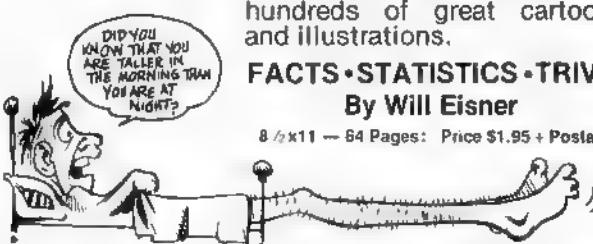
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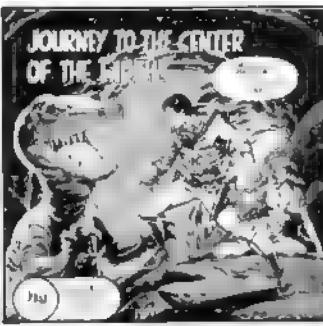
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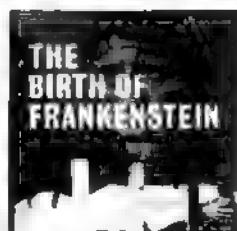
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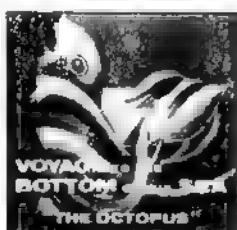
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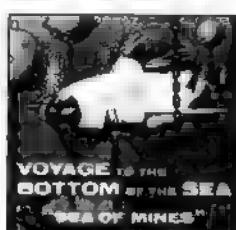
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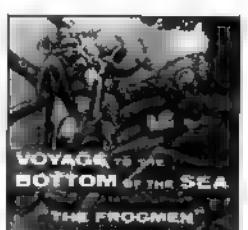
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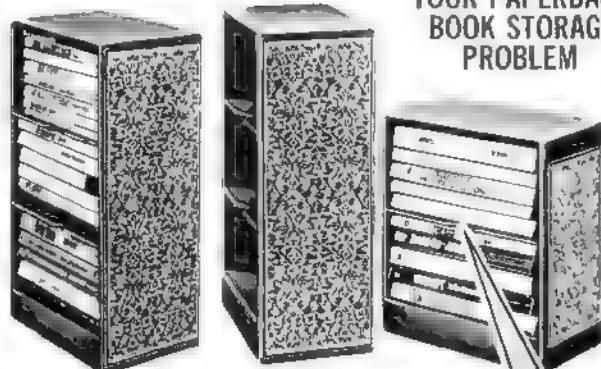
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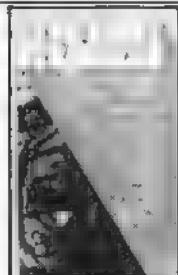
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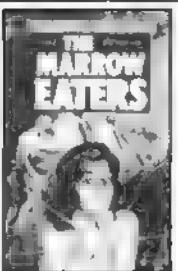
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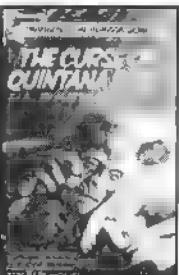
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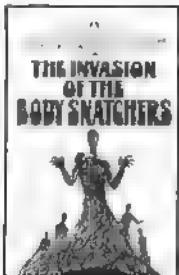
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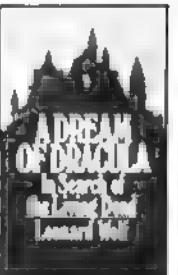
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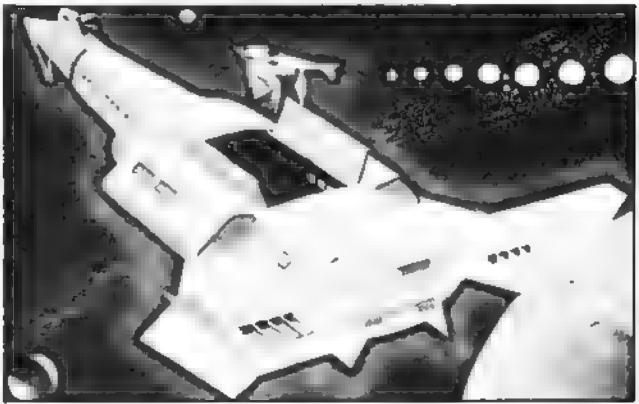
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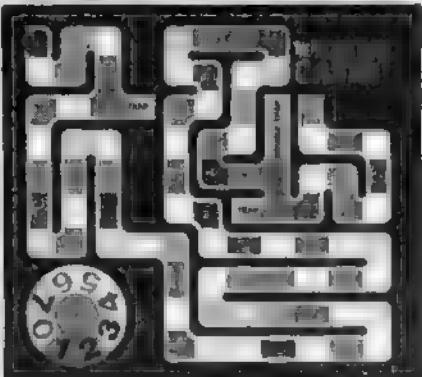
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Here's an incredible plastic model that glows in the dark! From "somewhere out there" it comes, a luminescent spaceship of alien invaders. This magnificent hobby kit is a big thirteen inches long when assembled. It comes complete with a display stand, and carries a miniature scout ship in its launch deck. Additionally, the doors to the launch deck open so that the mini spaceship can be removed. Extremely detailed, each and every highlight stands out when you turn off the lights. Assemble an entire fleet of ships! #2492/\$3.00

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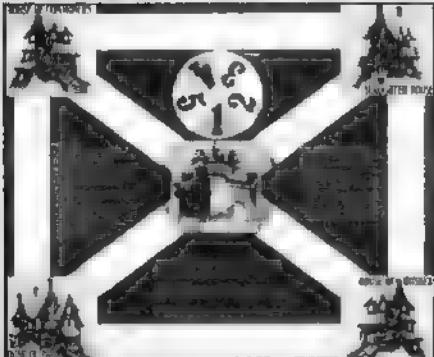
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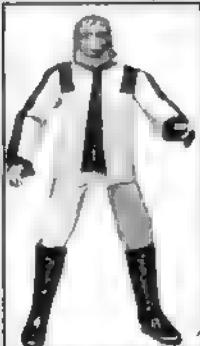
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CHAPTER 1

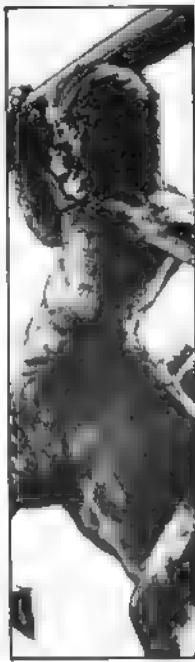
"SINBAD AND THE ORACLE"

In order to locate the whereabouts of the enchanted crown, the hero consults an Oracle in the depths of a dark cave. When the seer appears, the men know fear. For it is an enormous head of the most frightening Devil ever seen by man. And when they procure the information, the cave collapses on their heads! B/W #22042/\$7.99, Color #22043/\$15.95.

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Sinbad begins his perilous journey by confronting an enormous statue with six arms. Through the magic of an indestructible sorcerer, the monolith comes to life and does battle with Sinbad and his men. In the confines of a gold-filled cavern, man vs. beast, & a strange battle reigns! B/W #22038/\$7.99, Color #22039/\$15.95.



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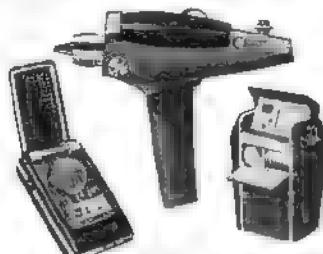
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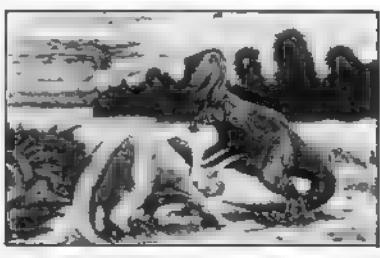
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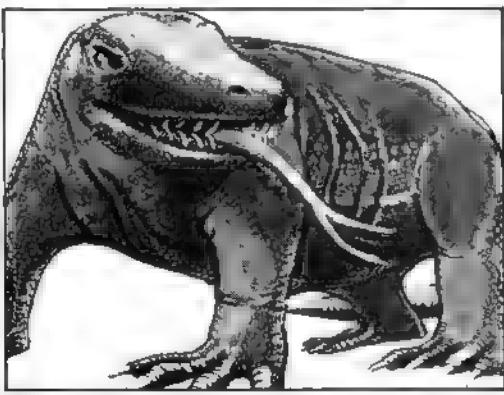
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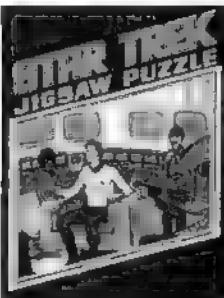
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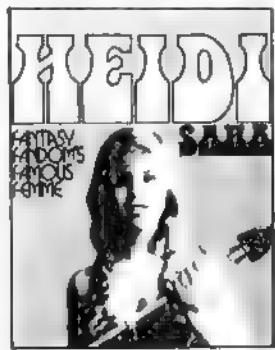
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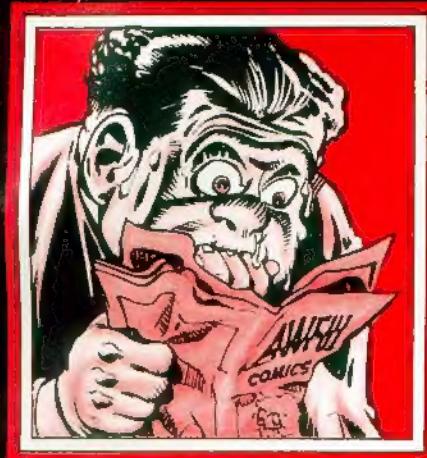
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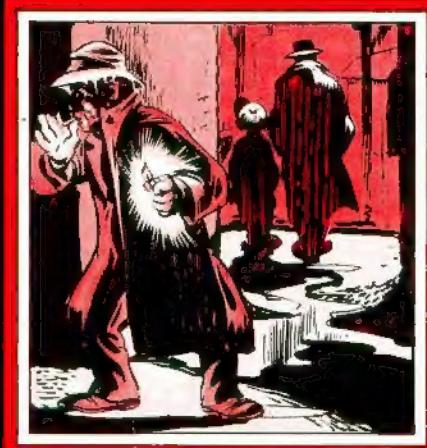
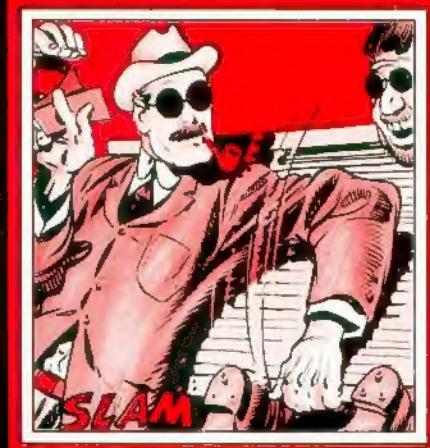


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